SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
September 28, 1966

This edition is a day late, but we will blame the delay on the nasty weather we've been having. It is still raining here, but so far we haven't had to swim to work yet, so we shouldn't complain.

Nothing much has been happening here in DC. Jane is still at Kent Point and we expect her back with us next Monday. We heard reports that she caught two Blue Grosbeaks and over this past weekend she had banded over 455 birds. We will expect a full report on Monday when she returns.

Max Thompson, Bob DeLong, and Dick Crossin are back with us for a while. Ken Balcomb was with us until Monday evening when he left for the West Coast and then on to Honolulu and some more field work provided the Draft board doesn't change his plans. Roger Clapp is back with us too after being out sick for a week. It is just great having people back in Washington after being almost deserted for what seemed to be ages.

We had a letter this week from Dick Maze. He finally made it to West Africa and is now teaching school there. He had a stopover en route in Portugal but after a week of wining and so forth he arrived in Ghana on the 14th of September.

Binion reports that he received another shipment of goodies from Honolulu and he and Jaye Cee are busily working on them. Once again, Room 605 is off limits by choice to the female Project Members!

We heard from Honolulu that Esther Morgan will be working for an MD and leaving the Honolulu Office. Good luck to her in her new position. She will be replaced by Pam Bulmer, Walt's wife. Welcome aboard, Pam.

The following are returns which were received during the past week:

757-23587 - Laysan Albatross, I-U, banded Laysan Island, 20 July 1965; was captured by a Japanese fishing boat on 27 June 1966. The boat was located at 43°39'N, 153°54'E.

722-11307 - Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded on Zapandi, St.George Island, 08-08-1966, was recaptured same place on 08-11-66 and found by a young boy on the eastern shore of Niotufoua School, Vaitupu Is., Ellice Island Group, 09-17-66.

777-55777 - Great Frigatebird, I-U, banded on Enderbury Island 02-14-66, caught by two fishermen who claimed the bird swooped down on them and they hit it with their oar, breaking its wing. They killed and ate the bird. The bird was found 08-24-66 just off Lukunor a small reef in the Mortlock Group 175 miles se of Truk (153°49'E,5°31'N).

file

27 September 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Doug:

Thanks for your letter of 23 September which arrived today. The specimens have not, as yet (11:55 am), arrived. Jan just told me of a drum of alcoholic lizards, toads, etc., which arrived last week which we need to examine (and number at the same time). We are assigning field numbers and cataloging each as we go over them. This should really be done at the time of collection, but no one does it. By the way, I am having three more Berlese funnels made here at the museum to replace any that may have broken, etc., (funnels only, not the wood frame).

Yes, the flea was from a sample that you got from Mamana on May 12. Another was collected by you (CDH I-719) but listed no host. Could you send me the host data for this collection as well as those for CDH I 714-728. All data is with the vial except for the host. I also have a flea from a Mus (?) from Mamana collected by Jim Lewis on June 3. Jim also obtained a flea from Rattus rattus on Midway on June 20. Berlese samples from all the Main Islands bird colonies would greatly help in our coverage of the area of interest. Frozen heads would also be appreciated from these same areas, however, as you say sometimes they are almost impossible to obtain without considerable delay. You should have some Sherman live traps for mammals there in the warehouse. How about taking some of these on the next trip to the offshore islands for live trapping mice and rats. You may can even get some sera samples from them. Make sure that the host is identified. If in doubt freeze the specimen (preferable) or save the skull. If chiggers bite any of the personnel, try to obtain the specimens.

I never sent you the memo books from the June FFS trip so you could put the data in them on you ADP sheets. Let me know when you want them. There is a good bit of Blue-faced Booby pair-bond information in them. We took similar data last August also. Ask Brian if he obtained this also.

Best regards,

Binion Amerson

file

27 September 1966

Dr. Robert L. Pyle
P. O. Box 8095
Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find four copies each of the May Ectoparasite Reports for Laysan and Lisianski with an addendum for each which I completed yesterday. I have already provided Pat Gould with copies of these reports. Since they will only spend a few days on the islands they may not be able to do a lot of collecting. Of particular importance are tick larvae, chiggers and hippoboscids.

By the way, did you check with Dr. Steffan at Bishop Museum about my nasal mite paper?

Best regards,

Binion Amerson

Enc.

September 27, 1966

Mr. F. C. Thompson
Pago Pago, American Samoa

Dear Chris:

Here's hoping that the first part of the trip has been highly profitable and you have collected some good material. The material from the last trip should arrive this week.

Jaye Cee and I have just finished examining the frozen bird heads which were here in DC. We are now awaiting another shipment from Honolulu. We only had a few frozen heads from the southern islands (Howland only) and they proved negative for chiggers. The other frozen southern island heads must be in Honolulu. The Leeward Hawaiian bird heads also revealed no nasal chiggers (or those on the outside). So far, only Sand-Johnston birds have harbored the nasal chiggers.

How has the tick and chigger collecting been on this trip? I hope you have been able to obtain additional Ixodes specimens. You probably read in the "Droppings" that the Hippoboscidae identifications proved quite interesting. Although our louse fly collecting so far is by no means complete over the entire area of interest, it seems that certain species may only occur on seabirds in the southern islands and not in the northern (Hawaiian) islands. Because of this, try to obtain as many hippoboscids as possible.

Give my regards to the rest of the POBSP personnel.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

c: Dr. Pyle
Binion
Files

September 22, 1966

Mr. Brian Harrington
PO Box 8095, Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Brian:

I received your letter yesterday and it sounds like the FFS crew are "living it up" at times. They are a great bunch of guys. By the way, did you ever locate the camera?

Before I forget, Max is interested to know the band numbers and dates recovered on the four Ruddy Turnstones. Did you obtain any that Kriedler banded in March (682 series)?

I am enclosing Xerox copies of the August 1965 and June 1966 returns. I only had those pages dealing with Sooty Terns copied. If you want the rest let me know. Yes, it does take quite a long time for returns to get worked up by Keenan and crew. She still has not finished the June returns. She has other things to do that are more important. Also some of last year's returns are still on partial forms and they don't send them in until they are filled. It's confusing at times, and certainly creates problems but one can't fight the system.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

Enc.

September 21, 1966

C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

Well, Jaye Cee and I finally finished the frozen bird heads today. You must still have all the ones from the SIC trip. There were some from Howland but none from anywhere else. Last spring we had some from Christmas. I would appreciate it if you would send the rest of the frozen heads on to DC so we could go ahead and work on them. I especially want to examine the ones from the southern islands for chiggers. Our freezer on the Bird Range is now slightly over half filled.

Also I would appreciate your sending the ectoparasite material from the last SIC trip to DC immediately. There may be material in that which I need to include in a paper I am preparing for the Acarology Congress next year. The paper has to go to John soon. It has to be sent to the Congress by 1 January.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

September 21, 1966

Dr. Robert L. Pyle
PO Box 8095, Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find copies of the letters concerning the 100 or so live ticks Dr. Glen M. Kohls wanted from Sand Island, Johnston Atoll. Will you make the necessary arrangements with the POBSP personnel on Sand for this shipment. Mr. Bushman suggested that the tick jars be labeled "For Glen Kohls." I suppose that if they can be hand carried back to Honolulu prior to late October, you could go ahead and send them on to John so he could pass them along to Kohls.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

Enclosure

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DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
September 21, 1966

Another week of rainy weather is upon us here in Washington. There isn't much to report this week. We waited until today to write the Droppings hoping that the mails would bring something we could pass on. However, the mails have been very slow and the Droppings must go out.

Things have been very quiet here in DC. Jane is at Kent Point until the 3rd of October. From all reports the rains haven't driven her back to us yet but we haven't heard any accounting of how many birds she handled. Dr. Pyle was with us last week but departed on Sunday for Honolulu by way of Salt Lake. Max Thompson and Dick Crossin arrived back with us over the weekend after ages in the field. Bob DeLong is on leave in Indiana (we think) and should be returning here eventually. Dick Crossin was called to Scranton, Pennsylvania on Sunday afternoon after receiving word that his father had died. Ken Balcomb is still with us but is anxiously awaiting the mails for news from his draft board. Max came back to us sporting some "fuzz" in the form of a mustache.

People were very scarce on the home front yesterday. Saverna and Anne were the only ones holding down the fort. Mary and Ruth were out ill, Keenan was in art class for the morning, and Bettye doesn't report for work on Tuesdays. Today however, we have a full house. Speaking of sickness, Binion has recovered nicely from his fall in his apartment and is now back iceskating. Also, he is the proud posessor of a new RCA color television. We haven't seen Roger Clapp yet since he's been back. He and Tina took a vacation when Rog returned and on Monday we heard that he is ill and so far he hasn't been into the office. We are all rested up and anxiously awaiting the mountains of manuscripts Roger will have for us to type. Keenan's first art class was yesterday at the Corcoran Gallery and she returned sporting a beret and an easel and was last seen madly turning out canvasses.

There are no recoveries or returns to report this week. However, Binion has passed along the following item. A flea which was collected in May from a Wedge-tailed Shearwater burrow on Manana is the first to be associated with a sea bird from the Central Pacific. It appears that this is a mammal not a bird flea and additional collecting should prove if this is a natural occurrence. Binion and Jaye Cee have been busily working with masses of bird heads which they received in a shipment recently. Binion asks that in the future please to freeze the bird heads as soon as possible so that they won't be bloody. Indeed this last shipment since its arrival here caused Binion and Jaye Cee's room (605) to be off limits especially to the female members of the Project who can't stand the sight of bloody heads.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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b.c.

September 19, 1966

Dear Jane:

Your message about # 3 bands to Samoa arrived late Friday. Thereis no need to send any to Pago Pago at this time because the trip left with slightly more than 100,000 which should be more than enough. I will definitely need some for the next SIC trip so the bands should be sent out here fairly fast.

Don't worry about the listings now. Glad to hear that one copy was sent to Pago Pago. I am seriously thinking about trying to have the listings run off out here on occasion. When a SIC trip returns I would like to try to up-date the listings and have these copied off so that the next trip can go out with a full listing.

As the emphasis is placed more and more on the recapture of birds the listing will become more and more important and it will be necessary to have it absolutely current. If it isn't current it will just mean more work for all concerned, especially if they handle large numbers of returns.

If you want you can send all of the copies you have except for about two copies. I can use any copies you don't want. What I'll do with these is keep them up-dated and then rotate them to the various island stations so that they can stay current as well.

I feel that while duplicating may be cheaper in D.C. it will be cheaper (in terms of total time lost) to have some of the work done out here. How do you feel about this?

I hope you get some more room in the freezers back there sometime in the near future because I am still fairly full out here. I don't have any time to devote to skinning myself and there aren't many people in town these days with so many trips in and out. By the last part of this week I'll be ready to send the last shipment of specimens (from theSIC trip) back to you. There will be two trunks of birds and one trunk full of berlese samples and miscellaneous specimens. The alcoholics will be sent later via surface.

Linda's mother and grandmother are now making a one week ~~xx~~ circuit of the other islands. When they return they'll stay at a hotel about 1 block away from us. There just isn't enough room in our apartment for four adults and a baby - it would be a real madhouse. My parents we invited but have declined.

Hope you had a grand time down at Kent Point this year and got lots of goodies. Wish I could be home right now to band some teensy tiny birds along with you.

Regards,

Doug

P.S.
Please tell Binion that all the ecto material from SIC 14 will be on its way by the last part of this week.

September 15, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaloo Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

Do you have the skull and/or photographs of the cetacean specimen found by Maze and Lewis on 25 July 1966 on Kure? If you have either or both, would you please rush them to Washington as soon as possible. I will be around here until the end of next week at least, and would like very much to find out what kind of beast this is. From a discussion with Lewis and the description in the 55th Progress Report from Kure Atoll, it sounds as though the animal is Mesoplodon Densirostris (known from the area), but the possibility exists that it is something even more interesting.

Thanks,

Kenneth Balcomb
Pacific Project

September 15, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

I feel very badly about the Xeroxed species listings not getting out to you. Bettye Lyon went on leave and the person that I assigned to finish the job got things horribly mixed up and I had to wait for Bettye to come back in order to get them all straightened out - I was afraid that if I sent them the way they were at that time that things would be worse than not having them! We sent a revised list airmail to Pago Pago so you should only be fouled up on the first part of the trip. I feel that this is my fault although I really was trying to save you time! We still have four or five complete listings back here to which we add your revisions - do we really need all of those? Would it be better if we sent them back out to you and let you do the inserts? Had that been the case, we could have had the things done for you in a day and sent right back out. The mix up came when somebody else tried to make the required number of copies and then panicked and didn't tell me that she didn't know what she was doing.

We are now processing your voucher and you should get your money in about three weeks. That should help pay the food bills for your in-laws. Are your mother and father coming out this fall? I know that they are extremely eager to see the baby and everybody would like an excuse to get to the islands! I hope you have room for them - or a hotel nearby where they can stay.

Sorry about your species listings - incidentally, we have no freezer space here at all.

Best regards,

Jane Church

September 15, 1966

Dr. Philip S. Humphrey
Department of Vertebrate Zoology
Room 369, US National Museum
Washington, DC

Dear Dr. Humphrey:

I have acted upon your suggestion by enrolling in a course in Statistical Methods at George Washington University. The course work will provide me with information which is directly applicable to my work concerning the analysis of data on seabird distribution. Specifically, a statistical analysis of the data is necessary to demonstrate correlations between seabird distribution and environmental conditions, and to show whether apparent changes in population densities in time or in position are real or are due to inadequate sample size. My background in statistics is inadequate to deal with the problems of such a statistical analysis.

The fee for the course is $171. I would like to request a reimbursement for the cost of the course from Smithsonian funds.

Sincerely yours,

Warren B. King
Pacific Program

f.c.
sent.

9/14/66

Hackman 1904 Kaioo Honolulu

Advise if size three bands should be

sent Samoa.

Chuck Smithsonian

f.c.

September 14, 1966

Dr. Ralph Kirkpatrick
Indiana University
Southern Campus
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47131

Dear Ralph:

I talked with all the necessary people today about the skulls which you asked if Lester Hart at Ball State University could use. Dr. Handley says that he would be glad to have the S. I. collection (of Pacific Project-collected skulls) sent out for your use. I shall ask Jan to get the ones from the bug room (if this is possible at this time) and you already have the ones we sent out to you frozen.

Proper credit must, of course, be given to the S. I. for its loan of material and the Project must also be named as the collector of the skulls. When you get the paper ready, send us a copy to check and to have cleared (we would anticipate no difficulty whatsoever with this type of report). This reminds me - what news of your Tokelau and Johnston Atoll papers? When you get them into print, please remember that we would like to have 200 reprints of each (we will pay for them).

Jan Reese is swamped with work this week but possibly he can get on with this next week. I'm going on leave tomorrow and there is a good chance that there might be some sort of delay because of having fewer people here. I shall leave a copy of this letter with Anne who will be "Acting Mother" for the next couple of weeks. I'm sure she will see to it that you get all your goodies before long.

Best regards,

Church

file

12 September 1966

Mr. Doug Hackman
PO Box 8095
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Doug:

Thank you for your letter of 7 September. Yes, I hope the ectoparasites from the last SIC don't take as long to get here as the last ones did. Kohls has already identified the 68 vials of ticks I sent him on the 23rd of August. They included a nymph of Ixodes amersoni and a rare Ixodes from Western Samoa. Last Friday I sent Kohls 88 additional vials of ticks which were in the material you recently sent me.

I hope the Ectoparasite Reports for each of the islands to be visited by the current SIC trip reached Honolulu prior to the ships departure. They should have gotten there on or before the 3rd. I'll find out whether they got there when I talk to Dr. Pyle tommrrow.

Many thanks for the page on Hawaiian game bird parasites. What is the title, etc., of the article from which this came?

Jaye Cee and I had to halt our mass examination of frozen bird heads as we ran out of small vials on Friday. The above tick shipments used up our supply. We hastily ordered some more and they should be here this afternoon.

I received a nice long letter from Fred last week. All is well with him. He certainly sounds as if he is really enjoying his work.

Best regards,

Binion Amerson

PS: The next time you are in DC you will have to come out and view my new color TV. It is suppose to be delivered on Thursday of this week.

c: Dr. Pyle, Files

September 12, 1966

Mr. Richard Chandler
Pago Pago, American Samoa

Dear Chan II:

I haven't told Chan Robbins yet that someone else in the bird world has his name! He comes back from the AOU Meeting this week and I will let him know that if he hears about an upstart Chan out in the Pacific, it's you and it's all right.

Many thanks for the check which came at an opportune time as we have just moved and I seemed to have bought out every store in sight. I'll just remember the large backlogs of checks of yours which went in and ask you if I can borrow if the need arises!

We're bringing your voucher up to date and in another several weeks you should be reimbursed your per diem for the time you've been on the Project. Also, for that matter, you will be reimbursed for all your other expenses.

It seems perfectly feasible to me for you to on around the world from Honolulu. You could turn in your ticket out there on a ticket elsewhere and just apply the amount which remains on the return trip to the trip to the Far East. You are accumulating 4 hours of annual leave every pay period. By the time you terminate you should have about two and one half weeks of leave coming to you. You will therefore receive a check for that amount and we will schedule you to terminate your employment the day your leave runs out. It is not necessary to be in Washington to terminate, although you will have to turn in your Smithsonian ID card and sign a security statement (de-briefing) before terminating in Honolulu. I think it's very sensible to continue on around the world - why don't we meet somewhere? I plan to go to Burma about the same time and maybe we could go together to

look at a Burmese bird or an Indian bird or a bird from some other remote place!

I hear your banding is fabulous - my banding is very small potatoes but I did go to an Operation Recovery station one day last week where we handled over 350 birds. This is a lot of birds to get out of nets, weigh, measure, etc.

Nice to hear from you - I can only recall one or two other letters from people who aren't asking for money!

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Jane P. Church

File

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST

September 12, 1966

Things seem rather slowed down this week over the week before when we had had letters and telephone calls and other sources of news - not much to gossip about today!

Max telephoned from Seattle to say that he was going to take a week in Kansas en route Washington. Dick Crossin is to join him there and we think that Bob DeLong is going along for the ride also - let's hope that Max doesn't take them all up in a plane at one time!

We were overwhelmed to find out that Ken Balcomb's collision with the pig in Samoa (previously unreported to Washington and therefore not commented upon before) had produced such a festered elbow that the Army doesn't want him for at least thirty days. We don't like to let good men down so we sent for him (we make it a practice of taking the Army rejects!) and he's working away on intermediate sheets (I think) with Pat Gould. We're in the highly unusual position of having to have all desks in use next week - we're expecting to have Amerson, Balcomb, King, Gould, Clapp, Thompson, Crossin and DeLong all here at once. Mother is out of her mind to be leaving at this juicy time but she's getting out to Kent Point to band birds for two and a half weeks - she got a Broad-winged Hawk last week and hasn't been fit to talk to since!

We gather that the AOU meeting was a mixed success. The latest report - well, let's start at the beginning and say that Warren King's abstract for his paper was never received and he was not put on the program. This was not discovered until he returned from his summer of canoeing (with the most luxuriant beard we've yet had possibly excepting George Wislocki's a couple of years back) as we didn't realize here that he had not received a letter of acceptance. We called the program man who put him on - and then when things were running late he was taken off. We gather that then the entire contingent of Pacific Project men left the hall! At some later date Warren's paper was put back onto the program but by then he wasn't able to read it himself because he had plane reservations back to Washington. Cam Kepler was to have read it and we presume that he did but will have to wait to hear from some good soul (Crossin ?) returning at a later date. We think that it was finally given! Warren took it all with good grace - and then shaved his beard.

We have heard that the Shearwater got off late because the Second Mate, Tony, broke his leg. They flew a replacement in for him and then just before sailing time one of the crew decided that for personal reasons he couldn't go - he was replaced quite quickly, however. We can't figure out why these men don't realize that we have to keep dates with the moon and that we just can't have all these delays!

Dr. Pyle flies in for a week this afternoon - meetings tomorrow, etc. I don't think we have anyone else scheduled to come - if so, sorry to have neglected you. Can think of no more news so we'll have just a one-pager today.

f.c

September 8, 1966

Dr. Robert L. Pyle
PO Box 8095
Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Dr. Pyle:

Would you call Dr. Wallace K. Steffan at the Entomology Department, B. P. Bishop Museum and ask him the status of my paper "Incidence and transfer of Rhinonyssidae in Sooty Terns." I resubmitted this POBSP paper for publication on May 12th and received acknowledgement that it arrived and was being reviewed, I wrote him again on July 29 asking about its status and have not received a reply. Dr. Steffan is acting editor for the Journal of Medical Entomology.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

I was so busy doing all sorts of things that this didn't enter my mind but my other half (old penny pincher) suddenly started agitating.

f.c.

Sept. 8, 1966

10 June

I have now amassed about 500 file cards for interisland birds that are not in the file. I have made a carbon copy of each of these and will send them along as soon as I have had an opportunity to go through the entire pile of books that are out here from your last shipment. I'm now about 2/3 rds of the way through the ones you sent out in the freezer and should be finished in a week or so. After that I'll work them for ADP data. That will take another month or two to complete. I now have a pretty good sized pile of material for the ADP system and by the time I have gone through all of the books this pile will be three or four times as large.

The revisions to the species listings did not arrive here in time to give them to the SIC trip -- as promised. This will become more and more critical as we place more and more emphasis on the recapture of banded birds. If they don't have the information along with them on the trip they will then bring back a horrible assortment of half completed and/or horribly screwed-up records. With only five or six days between trips (and these consumed by other frantic activities) it means I always end up with a pile of records that have to be completed or figured out. In the future I may try to have these xeroxed out here if the expense isn't too great simply in order to give the outgoing trips as complete and up-to-date a record as is possible. I'll have to talk to Dr. Pyle about this, however.

Not much happening except that, as usual after a trip comes in, I have a large pile of records and odds and ends to sort through and straighten out. These will be heading youw way shortly.

Hope the frozen shipment didn't upset things back there too much. I was in a position where I had little choice in what was shipped since the freezer was bulging at the seams and more junk was coming in each day. I now have a little room in the freezer but would like to get some more stuff out of here and back to you. I still have the series of terns that were collected by Crossin on Laysan in June. (About 40 of these have been put up as skins andd will be shipped soon). The rest are still fozen. (Would you believe frozen?) If you have the room I'd like to send them.

Sorry about the shipment not getting there when it should. The reservations were supposed to have been completely confirmed all of the way to Dulles. No change there.

Regards, Doug

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

7 September 1966

Mrs. Jane Church
Pacific Program
Smithsonian Institution
Room 601 West Wing, Nat. Hist. Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Jane:

I'm sorry to bother you with a change of address already, since I have just started working for Smithsonian. We really didn't move and it was the Post Office that did it to us. Of course, we just moved to Hawaii in June and just got all of our magazines, etc. changed, with new address labels printed! However, it is now:

1469 Kalani Kai Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

I don't know if Joan had told you, we are low on franked airmail envelopes, but we would appreciate your sending us a new supply.

The Bank of Hawaii "goofed" and sent us the bank statement this month. It has been straightened out and I have forwarded it to Mr. Zickafoose.

Thanks for the welcome in the "Droppings". I'm sure this is going to be a very interesting job and I am going to enjoy working for Dr. Pyle.

Sincerely,

Esther Morgan

Esther Morgan
Secretary to Dr. R. L. Pyle

P.S. We have a light-weight shoe box size package sent to Dick Maze from Kure. Do you have a forwarding address where we can send it to him?

file

6c

September 6, 1966

Dear Brian:

I just received your letter and hope this answer makes it back out to you by Thursday. Since yesterday was a holiday, no mail went, thus y your letter was late getting to me.

I am enclosing a color coded map showing where we banded adult Sooty Terns on East Island during 1963, 1965, and 1966. For 1963 the area was rather limited. In 1965 Sooties were all over the island, but would not hold for banding excepton the east portion. Thus our night banding was concentrated in this area. We did, however, do some daytime netting of adult sooties around out campsite. I probably could go back over the little green memo books and determine which bands were used on these flying adults. No netting was done at night--all birds were on the ground. In 1966 we banded all over the island, with the central and eastern portions worked the most. No daytime netting was undertaken.

I understand that you got five streamered Ruddy Turnstones so far. Congratulations, that's great. One has been reported from Kure also. I am anxious to hear what all you are getting. Drop me a line if you get a chance.

The girls are still working on the June FFS returns. I briefly glanced over the BFB returns and noted that birds banded as nestlings in 1963 numbered twice as many as we got last year. None of these birds were nesting either. In one case I had noted a questionable pairbond.

Were you and Bob bothered by chiggers? Jeff and I were, and I was able to obtain only one specimen. If you found some, I certainly hope that some have been collected.

Best regards,

Minion Amerson

5 Sept.

Via drawer

Dear Mrs. Church;

I hope my various financial mixups have not caused too much consternation for you.

The traffic fine problem was as you hypothesized; I closed my account with that check outstanding (that was the only one thank goodness.) Thank you very much for clearing it up so promptly. I enclose a check for your reimbursement.

My back-log of checks arrives here safely on Aug 19 and have been deposited. Would you please send all future checks to me out here at the 8095 address.

The enclosed expenses and times should bring my financial matters up to date.

For the future, could you please advise me on correct policy concerning this idea of mine. Since I am now about halfway around the world it seems a shame not to finish going the rest of the way. What I would like to do is lead west from here when I terminate (ca. next June). My questions are 1) may I postpone the wash. check-out until I arrive back in the States, tentatively next Aug-Sept? 2.) may I use the return half of the ticket I used to get out here at my own discretion? 3.) Is there any allowance, transportation wise, for leave-time, ie. Xmas, which I could forego in order to apply it to my personal westward jaunt. I don't wish to take a leave before I terminate.

OVER

I'd appreciate any suggestions + advice you can give me regarding my tentative plans in this matter.

Things out here are going along just dandy. We're all set for S.D.C. 15 which goes out tomorrow, looks like a good trip in store w/ a big crew of eager bird-men. Most of us are pretty green, but we plan to make the best possible show.

Regards to all

Chon

P.S. I've been tagged with "Chon" which lessens the Richard confusion out here, but Chon Robbins now has lost exclusive rights to the nick-name but that will be non overlapping until he starts coming on SDC trips, which is probably not forthcoming

f.c.

September 2, 1966

Dr. Charles A. Ely
107 West 25 Street
Hays, Kansas

Dear Chuck:

Here is the copy of Murphy's Wedge-tail paper which you wanted. I'm also enclosing some notes you left in one of the Marshall books. I finished the Ectoparasite Summary Reports for each of the islands on the next SIC trip yesterday. I hope the last one arrived in time to make the ship.

Now I've got time to get back on the M-G paper and the Acarology Congress Paper. I checked the USNM's Catalogs for the four M-G bird numbers you gave me and turned up 43 additional birds. Most of these are shorebirds, but a few are terns. I have not looked for these specimens but the numbers for the terns are as follows:

437214	Crested Tern ♂ Onotoa	August 19, 1951	E. T. Moul
437215	Noddy Tern - "	July 4, 1951	"
437216	White Tern - "	July 5, 1951	"
437218	White Tern - "	July 6, 1951	"

If you do not have these, I'll try to find them. Jane says she remembers that some catalogued specimens were missing when she was making McBee Cards in 1964.

I received a letter from Norman saying he might stop by to see you on his way to K.U.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

Enclosures

September 2, 1966

Mr. Norman Heryford
Department of Entomology
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Norman:

Thank you for your letter of 24 August. I found the SIC 12 catalogue before I received your letter. It was combined in the same green book with the SIC 11 catalogue. I found it accidentally while looking up something from SIC 11. By the way, do you remember any additional information concerning the chiggers you obtained on May 1, 1966 at McKean Island when you used the flannel cloth drag? Was this in vegetation, in a bird colony, or what? Also on what part of the island was this collection made?

I wish you a very successful year at K.U. Tell everyone there I said hello.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Pacific Program
Research Curator

September 2, 1966

Mr. David Hoff
Pago Pago

Dear Dave:

The next person who will be returning to Honolulu is Dr. Pyle and we will be very glad to ask him to carry your winter clothing out with him. I have put your letter in Jan Reese's box and have now turned over this responsibility to him! This is known as passing the buck and I find it a very satisfactory way to get things done. We all hope that the trip is coming along satisfactorily - I am presuming that you are to be on the SIC trip and that you will not receive this until Pago Pago! Otherwise, I hope that day by day things go well.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.)
Pacific Project

file

September 2, 1966

Dr. Robert Pyle
PO Box 8095, Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Bob:

Enclosed are two copies of excerpts from "A Manual of the Chiggers" which I am sending you to pass on to interested POBSP personnel. Chris already has a copy of this with him. In one of your earlier letters you mentioned a collecting technique which you suggested to one of the field men. This manual should answer most of the questions anyone will have concerning this group.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

Enclosures

f.c. Pest 9/2/66

Thompson Smithsonian ST. George Alaska

Turnstone sighted Kure 24 August
Church Smithsonian

p.c. Aug. 31, 1966

Hackman 1904 Kaioo ~~Dr~~ Honolulu

~~Frozen~~ specimens not on plane ~~last~~ thirtieth. ~~night~~. ~~Advise~~

Church Smithsonian

f.c.

August 31, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive, Apt 2
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

As far as I can figure out you never asked for your per diem so you quite naturally didn't get it! We have a Travel Authority here for you saying that you were leaving Honolulu on April 29 and returning on the 28th. If you will send us your itinerary plus your ticket stub (if you completed the ticket) I'm sure Saverna will be very glad to do this for you! You took three hours of annual leave on April 28 and we know that you left on the 29th on the 9:30 AM flight from Friendship, arriving Honolulu at 2:30 PM local time that same day. We do not have the day and the hour at which you left Honolulu and cannot process a voucher for you without it. Help!

Have to go measure birds - read the Droppings for all the other goodies that have happened in the past week. Anne wrote it and it's full of gossip, humor, excitement, and CRAP! Best to your better half also.

Regards,

Jane P. Church

Brian Harrington
F.F.S.

x 5754 8/31

Send Berlese Funnels to Honolulu with Tuxson, needed in SIC.

Amerson, SF.

5
6
9
8

Commanding
Jt Task Force Eight
Sandia Base
Albuquerque, N.M.

8-31
f.c.

Request continued billets for
2 full time POBSP field men
in Sect CJ45 + 2 extra
men for occasional short stays.

PSHumphrey

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

	INITIALS	ACTION
1 TO June Church		CIRCULATE
	DATE	COORDINATION
2		FILE
		INFORMATION
3		NOTE AND RETURN
		PER CONVERSATION
4		SEE ME
		SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Returned per our conversation, this date. Sorry I could not help you.

Carmen

FROM

DATE 30 Aug 66

PHONE 76725

DD FORM 1 OCT 60 95 REPLACES PREVIOUS EDITION.

☆ GPO: 1961-600239

Form No. 6
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
(Feb. 1, 1951)

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

TO THE FOLLOWING IN ORDER INDICATED

NAME OR TITLE	INITIALS—DATE
1. Mrs. Turner	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Your information	☐	Note and return	☐
Your comments	☐	Proper signature	☐
Necessary action	X	Note and file	☐
Prepare reply	☐	See me	☐
Your recommendation	☐	Your initials	☐

REMARKS Would your office please answer this for us? (I don't know how to reference it properly!). We wish to continue our billets for two full-time men on Sand Island, Johnston Atoll at the US Coast Guard Station plus have authority to have up to two extra men for "short" periods if appropriate.

FROM	DATE
Jane JC Church, Pacific Project	8-25-66
	PHONE 144 - 5396

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1960 O - 539470

WESTERN UNION TELEX SERVICE

WU TELTEX WSH

NAVCOMSTA WSH

1966 AUG 10 AM 10 34

TLX257 GOVT PD

WASHDC 10 1026A EDT

TELTEX-THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED DIRECT FROM SENDER VIA W.U. TELEX

053

DR HOMPHREY SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE

WASHDC MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

#369 10TH ST AND CONSTN AVE NW

DD

0923362.

SUBJ: POPULATION

FORECAST FOR JOHNSTON ATOLL (HOLD PERIOD).

B. JTF 8 MSG CA-6-723 DTG 232130 MAR 66, SUBJ: FY 68

MAINTAIN PHASE POPULATION FORECAST FOR JOHNSTON ATOLL.

1. FOR LPG. REQ THAT INPUTS FOR ENHINEERS, AND CONSTRUCTION BE PROVIDED. THE OVERALL FORECAST WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN COMPILED FOR THE COMPUTATION OF M&O.

2. THE REPORT REQUIRED BY PARA 1 OF REF A IS DUE IN HQ JTF8 NLT THURSDAY, 1 SEP 66. THIS REPORT SHOULD COVER THE PERIOD 1 SEP 66 THRU 30 JUN 68.

(CJTF8)SANDIA BASE, ALBUQUERQUE, NMEX.

Commander, Joint Task Force - EIGHT, etc.

NAVCOMSTA WSH

1966 JUL 10 AM 10 44

August 31, 1966

Dr. Ralph D. Kirkpatrick
Asst. Professor of Zoology
Indiana University
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130

Dear Ralph:

I neglected to refer to your last letter before forwarding the frozen mice to Louisville on August 29th. However they are being held in Louisville by Eastern in a freezer until your return. You can pick them up at the Eastern Airlines cargo office in Louisville when ever it is convenient to you. The storage billing is already taken care of.

Sincerely yours,

Jan Reese

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
THE SOUTHEASTERN CAMPUS

AREA CODE 812
TELEPHONE BUTLER 2-4327

WARDER PARK
JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA 47130

August 5, 1966

b c

Mrs. Jane Church
Pacific Project
Division of Birds
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Jane,

The final installment of my travel pay for last March has arrived. Thank you.

Jan

The 100 blank McBee Mammal cards that I requested have also arrived. However, I now find that I need an additional 125 blank McBee Mammal cards (over and above the 100 you just sent). Sorry to have not caught this extra need before.

Because of the problem of the airline strike and because I will be out of town until September 10, please do not attempt to send me the 2.74 cubic feet of frozen Mus until that date. After September 10, I would appreciate receiving the Mus whenever it is feasible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ralph

Ralph D. Kirkpatrick
Asst. Professor of Zoology

RDK:bb

Jane Church

b c

August 30, 1966

Mr. Brian Harrington
French Frigate Shoals

Dear Brian:

It's nice to receive your cheery letters reporting all is going fine, although with a failing motor, threatening storm and lost camera, it doesn't sound so auspicious.

I surely hope you've found the camera. If not, we can discuss the situation thoroughly on your return; but I don't think we'll make any formal claim or report to the Coast Guard, because it's of far less value than the services they've provided for us. But if we feel strongly that it was removed from our gear there, and particularly if there was any sign of disturbance to our gear, then I may make a verbal off-the-record report to the Coast Guard here. We must avoid any possibility of this incident upsetting our fine relations with the Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard vessel with Kridler's party is scheduled to be at FFS September 11 to 15. It's a full party of 5, including a newspaper photographer, and unfortunately we couldn't get space for you. However, if the ship holds to this schedule, I would like you to stay there until the 15th. There's always a slim chance that one of the group may want to leave at FFS because of seasickness or other emergency, and you might get aboard in his place. There isn't anything special for you to do here, and something interesting in shorebirds might turn up any day. Doug suggests that you be sure to check the runway, as some interesting shorebirds have been collected there.

Doug says he sent an inventory list marked to indicate items to be brought back, or stored there. He wanted to remind you to bring back the Berlese funnels, the motor mount, the poorest raft for repair here, and all valuable non-expendable items of general usability; such as camera, binoculars and gun.

SIC 14 returned Friday reporting a pretty successful trip. Roger Clapp got a lot of island work done, and the new pattern for covering the southern grid worked out well. Rick Chandler set a new banding record of 6,000 adult Sooty Terns in less than 12 hours, using pliers drilled to fit size 3 bands. This was so successful that we're going to have

more pliers drilled.

SIC 15 leaves Tuesday September 6th, with Paul Woodward as leader and probably with a total party of 10 including 4 on their first SIC trip. We hope to get the SUNNADIN for a survey trip to the Northern Grid in October.

We'll look forward to hearing more about your doings when Bob returns this week.

Aloha,

P. S.

This will be typed by our new part time secretary, Mrs. Esther Morgan, who started yesterday as replacement for Joan Merrill. The Merrills leave Thursday.

f.c.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

153 Pauahilani Pl.
Kailua, Hawaii, 96734
August 30, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church
Pacific Program
Smithsonian Institution
Room 601 West Wing, Nat. Hist. Bldg.
Washington, D.C., 20560

Answ

Dear Jane,

Just a note to say we will be leaving here on Sept. 1st and arriving on the East coast at 3:30 PM EST on Sept. 2nd. We will be in Washington on Sept. 8th. Would you please see what you can do about having my past perdiem check by that time. We will be pretty broke by then. I was advanced $500.00 already. I will have no other reimbursements for items in Honolulu. I am not sure of the policy for reimbursement for travel expenses from Ithaca to Washington and return. I know some of the guys have recieved payment to and from where they were living. I will discuss this with you when I return.

See you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Dick

Richard W. Merrill

f.c.

August 30, 1966

Dr. Robert L. Pyle
PO Box 8095, Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find copies of the proposed Ectoparasite Survey for SIC 14 and copies of the Howland, Baker and McKean Ectoparasite Reports with Addenda to each. Reports on Phoenix, Hull and Birnie will be sent shortly. Please give copies of these to Chris and the trip leader. I hope that the Survey Outline and the Reports will help Chris and the other personnel on the SIC 14 trip.

I hope that Chris will be permitted to do more ectoparasite work than Norman on the SIC trips. Since he was hired as an assistant Medical Entomologist, I feel that his main duties should be entomological in nature. I got the impression that at times Norman was required to do bird work prior to (and above) his ectoparasite work. Therefore on many islands our ectoparasite work is hurting. I'm not suggesting that he not do bird work (banding, etc.) for I think he should and I know he is interested in birds. But I do hope that you will talk over the situation with both the trip leader and Chris.

I am looking forward to talking further with you on your upcoming trip to DC.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

Enc.

PSH

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
August 30, 1966

Things have quieted down today, but yesterday was the day of all days. We had a rush job from Dr. Humphrey and all hands pitched in and we came sailing through. The American Legion was in town and had a parade but most of us missed their parade (or a good part of it, but caught fragments of it while trying to cross the streets at 5:15!). It's still hot and humid but perhaps there is some cool air coming our way, we hope.

Dr. Ely's Tern Paper for the AOU Meetings has been cleared as word was received on it yesterday. Warren King came in to see us last week after a wonderful summer in the wilds of Canada. He has a lovely beard and a beautiful tan and we are all awaiting his return to the Project on September 1. Dick Maze finally made it to Washington on Monday the 29th. He is here with us for a week or so before leaving for his teaching post in Africa. Dr. Ely departed on Thursday evening for Hays and his teaching position. When he left all of the Terns he was working on had been measured with the exception of the Sooties. The new address for the Elys is:
107 West 25th Street, Hays, Kansas.

Dr. Pyle called in yesterday afternoon to say that the Shearwater was in. More on that later when the mail arrives. He did say that Larry Huber won't be leaving us next month to return to school but will stay on until mid January. Joan and Dick Merrill we think are heading our way this week. A new secretary has been hired for the Honolulu office - Mrs. Esther Morgan. We all extend a hearty welcome to her. Dr. Pyle passed on a bit of gossip from Honolulu - that he and Mrs. Pyle, the three Hackmans, and some other Project members can all vouch that Joan Merrill is an excellent cook after sampling one of her delicious dinners recently. More gossip - Jan Reese was seen in the company of a lovely young blond here in the office last week. She was his daughter, Terye, and she is almost as big as Jan. We believe that Jan is now sorry he brought her in as he had us all believing all along that he was only 19! (with a 6 year old daughter that would have made him .....). Mary Johnson announced recently that she is retiring in early December. Bettye Lyon will be taking her place and is now attending business school working on her typing speed. Keenan is out today. She and Dick are moving back to Virginia from Washington, this time with furniture. We understand that they have one bed and one table.....

Yesterday's mail brought a letter from Max and we qoute: "we have just been doing great on banding. It is fantastic to think that as of today (24 August) we have nailed over 5500. That is new banded birds. We have handled nearly 6000 birds so far. We are anticipating about 7000 total new banded before we finish up. It is fairly definite (as Alaska goes) that we must be ready to leave St. George by September 6." He goes on to say that a shipment of live Ruddy Turnstones is arriving to go to the Zoo here in DC. Speaking of shipments - we recently sent a shipment to Honolulu and never received word of its arrival there. Yesterday Jan Reese began tracking it down only to find that it had been shipped to Honolulu and was returned about two weeks ago to Shipping because the address on the shipment and the address on the Invoice were different. Jan made all the necessary changes on this shipment and with luck it should eventually get to Honolulu. Jan has asked us please to pass the word on to everyone in the field that when you degrease a bird, please write on the back of the degrease tag exactly what it was degreased with. Again on the subject of Jan - he is going out to Dulles this evening to pick up a large shipment of frozen birds which are arriving at 8 PM from Honolulu.

A note from David Bratley some time back stated that he was planning to attend the AOU Meetings. Now we hear that he has a job with the Department of Conservation, State of Wisconsin. We wish Dave all the best.

We will now close with the following recovery to report:

747-56685 - Lesser Frigatebird - A-F, banded on Phoenix 07-13-64 was found at Rabaul New Britian. Letter was dated August 18, 1966. As both legs were off or broken the bird is presumed dead.

On the lighter side:

Herb Church returned on Sunday after three-to-four weeks touring the Orient. He stopped in Hawaii enroute and spent an enjoyable afternoon with Dr. and Mrs. Pyle. Mrs. Pyle took him on a tour of the island. What is this we hear about an Escort Service being located directly across the hall from the Honolulu Office - no wonder Larry Huber has decided to stay with the Project for another few months! Also, now we realize why the cries for money have subsided from the field personnel!! We never heard this bit of news from anyone stationed in Honolulu and we thank Herb for passing on this tidbit. Jane is not feeling so kindly towards him however. It was all right when he took off for three and a half weeks on his trip while she was here at work, and even though he came back with gifts of beautiful jewelry for her, she can never forgive him because in Honolulu he saw a Red-footed Booby!

P.C.

Per

Telegram - 8/29/66

Thompson Smithsonian St George Alaska

Brief general presentation okay. Slides sent care Rausch Anchorage.

Humphrey Smithsonian

$$
\begin{array}{r}
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15 \\
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\end{array}
$$

f.c.

August 26, 1966

Dear Jane:

Hopefully a quick note before leaving for Pier 40 to meet the Shearwater, due in at 5 pm today. Herb also got in last night and called this morning. We had lunch together, and Billie is driving him around a bit this afternoon. Also, Fitch arrives at the airport tonight at 6:10 pm. Either Joan or I will dash out from Pier 40 to meet him. No one here, of course, knows him, but we better make connections because his letter said if he wasn't met he would head for the"Walkaki"Hotel, which is a figment of someone's imagination. I found Bob Tuxson all right when he arrived.

But this afternoon and evening will be hectic, and I'm sorry for Herb that he had to hit here on Shearwater arrival day. We'll take things as they come and perhaps I'll see him again sometime tonight. He leaves tomorrow morning and is due at Dulles Sunday noon, as I imagine you know. He reported the trip was quite successful considering its length and the complications involved.

We hired a secretary yesterday. Mrs. Esther Morgan. She has a child or two in upper school, and her husband is here for at least two years (not military). She seemed the nicest of the lot; Joan and I are both very pleased. We told the two next best applicants that we would like to hold their names just in case our choice did not turn out. Mrs. Morgan will come in Monday to start, giving two days overlap with Joan. I told her to get some Form 57's filled out, and we'll plan to send you a couple as soon as possible.

Hope you got the wire about Kridler's turnstone, banded March 11, 1964 on Lisianski.

If we make connections properly I can give this to Herb to take back to you. We were real happy to see him, and wish things hadn't been so hectic.

Everything else O.K. for the moment, but SIC 14 may bring in problems. I've got to run now.

Aloha,

Bob

Teelegrams to: Perk. — 8/26/66

Max Thompson Smithsonian St. George
Alaska

~~Turnstone~~ Kridler banded Turnstone
Lisianski 11 March 1964 age unknown
Church Smithsonian

Pyle 2394 Kalakaua Honolulu

Thompson handled Turnstone 19 August.
Church Smithsonian

August 25, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

Got your August 22nd letter this morning. One of the boxes containing Berlese samples from Kure and Manana arrived yesterday. Jaye Cee will return on Monday from his vacation just in time to accession everything.

Guess what I found - the SIC 12 Ectoparasite Catalogue! It was sitting on my desk, but disguised as the SIC 11 Catalogue. I happened to be looking up something and discovered both in the same book. The label on the outside indicated only SIC 11.

Yes, I left the Yashica camera in one of the trunks (or ammo boxes) at FFS when we left in July. According to my inventory list it should have been in Trunk #1. I hope Brian can find it. I hope, however, this doesn't cause hard feelings between the CG personnel at FFS and POBSP.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

c: Dr. Pyle, ABA, Files

August 25, 1966

Mr. Brian Harrington
Smithsonian Field Party
USCG LORAN Transmitting Station
Box 57
FPO, San Francisco, California 96611

Dear Brian:

I got a letter from Doug this morning saying he received a letter from you which mentioned that the Yashica camera was missing from our stored equipment at FTS. According to my inventory list, it should have been in Trunk #1 (which I believe was the top trunk). There should have been ammo boxes on top of this trunk, however. The camera could have gotten shifted to an ammo box, but I'm sure you have looked through all of them. If one of the CG personnel did take the camera, I hope it doesn't cause hard feelings between the FTS station and the POBSP.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

Enclosure

c: Dr. Pyle, D. Hackman, ABA, Files

August 25, 1966

Mr. Norman Heryford
PO Box 273
Weaverville, California

Dear Norman:

Guess what - I found the SIC 12 Ectoparasite Catalogue! It was on my desk, but disguised as the SIC 11 Catalogue. I was looking up something and discovered that the two trips were combined into one book.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

c: ABA, Files

b c

Kure Island
Smithsonian Pa rty
USCG Loran Station
USN Air Sta tion, Box 36
FPO San Francisco, Calif
96640
25 August 1966

Dear Jane,

Greeting from Kure Island. I am re ally enjoying the work up or out here. What with the Booby and Red-tailed Tropicbird nesting studies, the berlese samples, the rat collecting, the shorebird surveys, and the usual banding there is plenty to keep me more than busy and it is great to be alone to do the work as and when i want to. I think that i am getting quite a bit done.

Am writing as the twice weekly plane arrives to take mail off. Yesterday while counting sho rebirds I saw a Ruddy Turnstone with a ~~sam~~ small green streamer on the left leg. What stood out more than the streamer was that the proximal portions of the tail feathers and the lower portion of the back where it should ha ve been white was a bright orange color! Is this one of our birds from the Pribilofs? (also ?spelling) I tried to collect the bird but by the time i got back to the barracks and found the CO to get the gun it was gone and a search all this morning did not turn it up. If the color marking is ours i think it is a fine idea since the orange stands out very distinctly and without this i probably would not have seen the tag-streamer.

Hello to everyone in washington. More sometime.

Sincerely.

Ralph

Ralph W. Schreiber

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

25 August 1966

Dear Jane:

I got the netting okay. It was shipped at the almost the same time as the streamers on August 10. Guess the air strike fouled it up.

I got a letter from Jan about the lens for my camera. Sorry to have caused such a mess. If they will forward them to Washington and hold them there for a few weeks, I will get them out myself. I know you can sweet talk them into it, Can't you????

The dropping contained two recoveries new to us. The most exciting is the Golden Plover. That is a migration route unsuspected by us!!!!!!!! In that short of time it could only have gone direct!!!!!!! What a chance since se only banded about 30+ last year.

Not much more to write from here. The ship is going to tye Chain today (aleutians) and will be back by in 3-4 days. Should have 1500 more birds by that time.

Babybird (Max Thompson)

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

f.c.

August 25, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program, Room 601W
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Jane:

Just a short note to let you know about the shipment of two freezers full of frozen specimens from here on Monday, August 29. I have confirmed reservations as follows: PAA flt. 824 from Honolulu at 10:30 p.m. Aug 29; to TWA 108 in LA leaving at 10:35 a.m. Aug 30. The TWA flt arrives at Dulles at 8 p.m. on Aug 30. These were the only confirmations I could get. American Airlines is not accepting any freight at the present time because it is still snowed under from all of the freight dumped on it during the strike.

This shipment will consist mostly of rats, bird heads and as many birds as I can stuff in. As soon as it arrives and things get settled down could you please have Jan drop me a line regarding the amount of space that is remaining. The specimens being shipped this time have not even been in my freezer (which is full to the top). Instead they have been held for the past five weeks in the freezers in which they are being shipped for lack of space. Every three or four days I've had to go get some more dry ice. My space is still critical. If the trip returns with another large pile of frozen specimens I don't know what I'll do because I simply don't have anymore freezer space available.

My other half is after me to check and see if I get any per dieum for the trip I made back to D.C. this past spring. I've been so busy trying to get caught up on everything that it has completely slipped my mind. If I was supposed to get per dieum can I still collect?

I now have something like 280 additional movements carded up for the interisland file (in addition to the few cards already sent to you). As soon as I go through a few more of the green books I'll bundle these cards up and send them to you. I would strongly recommend that someone back there spot chedk the green books from the earlier trips (contained in the 200 or so books I recently returned) to see if there are any movements in them that have been missed. For heavens sake please have them mark in the books that they have been checked against the interisland file so that no one else will ever have to check them again for this particular thing.

Not too much happening at the moment - its the calm before the storm.....the SIC trip returns tomorrow afternoon at 5 p.m. After that I expect to be as busy as the dickens until sometime after the leave. DICK and Joan will leave right in the middle of that and I know I'll sorely miss them.

Hope all is well in DC-land.

Regards,

Doug

Standard Form 63
November 1961
GSA Gen. Reg. No. 27

MEMORANDUM OF CALL

f.c.

Date	Time
8/25	1450

TO— Mrs Church

☑ YOU WERE CALLED BY— ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

E.C. — Telephone #95

Military Time 1960

TELEPHONE:	Number or code	Extension

☐ PLEASE CALL
☐ WILL CALL AGAIN
☐ RETURNING YOUR CALL
☐ IS REFERRED TO YOU BY:
☐ WAITING TO SEE YOU
☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

LEFT THIS MESSAGE: Kridler —
Turnstone banded
Lisianski - 11 March 64
age unknown. Request
Alaska data

Received By— Ruth

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1963 O—675340

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

24 August 1966

Dear Jane:

My my dear Jane, thank you so much for the streamers. I must confess I damned you for there not arriving last week but I love you today again. What actually happened is they arrived on the boat last week and the damned Aleuts put them in the warehouse instead of bringing them to the post office. They found them yesterday while sorting food. I was furious but didn't make any difference at that time. As Bob said, Jane is "in" again today. I have such a reservation about you and Alaska that I automatically suspect the worse. But never fear Jane dear even though I think you forget us sometimes I still think the world of you.

The camouflage netting has not arrived and will probably be on the boat just coming in. I see its lights about 5 miles out. I may get a chance to add some more to this after reading the mail.

We have just been doing great on banding. It is fantastic to think that as of today we have nailed over 5500. That is new banded birds. We have handled nearly 6000 birds so far. We are anticipating about 7000 total new banded before we finish up. It is fairly definite (as Alaska goes) that we must be ready to leave St. George by September 6. I can't leave before that and couldn't arrive at the AOU meeting until the 9th which is no good so will not plan on attending.

I will be sending the live birds out and will wire you the flight they are comingin on. It will be NW and will probably arrive in DC (Dulles) at5-6 p.m. The sera will be going to John Bushman by air mail special delivery unless you wire me differently. There isn't time for a letter although you could catch me in Anchorage as will be at AHRC before I ship it. We will have to dry ice it. Also will be shipping some frozen specimens and prepared ones at about the same time.

I think that about covers the minute details. Sorry about the errors but the boat approaches.

Yours

Mary

Office Memorandum • WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

TO : DEAR PAT,

DATE: 24 AUGUST

FROM : PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED YOUR SHUNTOV PAPER. THANKS FOR THE LOAN. YOUR CARD FILE IS NOW BEING DUPED

SUBJECT : AND WILL BE ON THE WAY BACK TO YOU ABOUT THE 29th.

OUR DIRECTOR OF BIOLOGY, BUCK KETCHUM, IS A BIT SKEPTICAL OF THE INT. SEABIRD PROC. CENTER AT WHOI. ITS GOING TO TAKE SOME HARD WORK AND GOOD POLITICS TO GET IT HERE. I FIGURE I'M IN FOR A COUPLE OF SWEATY SESSIONS, OR MORE.

MY FAMILY LEAVES FOR VERMONT THE 1ST OF SEPT. BUT I WILL STAY AT WHOI UNTIL THE 15th. IF LIFE GETS THE BEST

OF YOU DOWN THERE YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE A QUIET, RELAXING SPACE RESERVED FOR YOU IN THE WILLIS HOUSE. YOU JUST MIGHT ENJOY A VERMONT AUTUMN IN MARLBORO, VT. THINK IT OVER.

THANKS AGAIN, ALL THE BEST

PAUL

26 August, 1966

Mr. Paul Willis
Physical Oceanography
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Woods Hole, Massachusetts
02543

Dear Paul:

Thanks for your letter and the return of Shuntov's paper. Did you find the paper useful? If you ever need anything of this sort, and we have it here, feel free to write for it.

Everything here is very slow and the deadly work of transfering data onto intermediate sheets for data processing continues without relief. Boy will I get drunk when that job is finished.

I would very much enjoy visiting you and would certainly like to look over your set up at Woods Hole. Since I must make a trip to the American Museum in New York I thought that I might combine the two visits. How does Monday the 12th and Tuesday the 13th of September sound to you? Would it be better if I came up Sunday evening the 11th? I could then visit the American Museum on the 14th, 15th, and 16th. If this is all right with you lets plan on it. Where would I meet you and what is the best way of getting there?

If there is anything you would like to see that I can bring with me please let me know. This offer excludes, of course, such things as cold cash etc. I'll be looking foward to seeing you again.

Till then,

Patrick J. Gould
Research Curator
Pacific Project

PSH

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST

August 24, 1966

A wire in from Max yesterday morning said they have another Turnstone picked up, not banded by us. The number is 662-06143 and they recaptured it on 19 August. A call to the Banding Office provided the information that it's a Kridler band but that they have no schedule on it as yet. The string immediately preceding was used in 1964. They've banded 4,402 Turnstones to date and are running out of streamers. Max notes that the Kelez has no room for them this year so he and Bob should be back in after the first week in September. We hope that Max can make the AOU Meeting en route Washington. They've banded three Baird's Sandpipers.

We forgot to mention that Bill Wirtz came in with Merry the week before last. Bill looks just the same and is still enthusiastic about graduate school.

Last week brought in remarkably little mail which may have been just as well because Anne was on leave and we wouldn't have gotten around to answering things. She's back now, unfortunately not having learned that she's unable to stay out in the sun for any length of time as 60 percent of her face has burned away! We hope to see the familiar face again by next week.

Jan Ely got off on Thursday evening and the latest report from Hays or wherever she is now states that she is busily buying automobiles! The Elys are going to be car poor apparently.

We have had no success whatsoever recently in picking up birds recovered by other people at the Department of the Interior Mailroom. Mary keeps trudging over everyday and coming back everyday with a long face and no report of our birds. It is probably just as well that our enormous quantities of Sooty Terns do not wander over land masses too readily!

Chuck and various assistants (mostly Jan Ely) have finished measuring two or three of our species of Terns. We moved Keenan over to the other side to measure starting today and she's busily learning how many tail feathers Terns can have! She said it beats doing returns and many of the other things which she has recently been doing. This reminds me that things are awfully quiet around here this week - Jaye Cee and Bettye are on leave and Jan Reese has also left for leave. He volunteered to come back off his leave if the trunkloads of specimens come in from Honolulu by air however. This seems above and beyond the call of duty but we appreciate it anyway.

We keep looking for Dick Maze, but so far he's a no show. A letter from him last week said that he was on his way to Washington but the airline strike was fouling him up along the way. We hope that he will get in before the end of the week because all his papers are made out for August!

Welcome back to the Shearwater - we presume that all you broke people will be sending in your itineraries and receipts. Saverna is standing by to process them and most of the people in Fiscal who've been on vacation have now returned so about three weeks should do it. Those of you who are going back out again and heading for Pago Pago should have your checks there upon arrival.

Pat Gould reports that at least 30 percent of all our pelagic data are now on the intermediate sheets and headed for the ADP Room! What a relief it will be when the bulk of this is finished. It has been a great help to be able to run red lines down the columns for zeroes and blue lines for ones. Before we started doing that, we had somebody working almost full time doing nothing except filling in zeroes. She is now working full time on orange streamers!

Donna has finished compiling our Annual Report - Congratulations, Donna! It's being xeroxed and should be ready to send out in another day.

August 23, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

Thanks for your letter of 16 August in which you so carefully drew plans for the Berlese funnel rack. Thanks for these but I also need dimensions for the Berlese funnels themselves.

Yes, I received the letter from Phil Shelton concerning the Hawaiian Noddy Tern we picked up at French Frigate. I have added banding date to the return worksheet. In case he didn't send you a copy of the letter I will pass on the banding data for that band. It was 642-01347, banded Sand-Johnston, 2 May 1966, banded as an adult, sex unknown, White-capped Noddy Tern.

Thanks for looking everywhere for the ectoparasite log for SIC 13. I have written Norman to see where it may be. Would you also ask Dick Crossin about it when he comes in from the present trip?

Since you are so thoroughly familiar with what is in the freezer out there, let me ask you a question which Chuck has been asked several times. This concerns a headless godwit which he claims was in the freezer when it left his house. This is the only specimen from the Marshall and Gilbert trip which is not put up as a skin. I hope that you will send this one back (with the head) so it can be put up as a skin and catalogued into the Museum. It is very important that I get this specimen back here as I am currently writing up the Marshall and Gilbert paper and I want to refer to the collected specimens not with field numbers but as the Museum catalogue numbers.

Well, today (Monday) was supposed to be another hot and humid day with only a 20% chance of showers. Here it is 3 PM and it is pouring down outside and of course I didn't bring my umbrella. Maybe it will quit by closing time (It did, [this letter is a bit late being typed, as it's now Tuesday morning - Anne]). Well, I finally got tired of shaving around my mustache, so this morning I shaved it off!

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

c: Dr. Pyle, ABA, Files

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM ®

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. McFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

LLG047 WA097 1966 AUG 23 AM 7 41

(LL) GOVT NL PD TLX WASHINGTON DC AUG 22

JANE CHURCH, PACIFIC PROJECT
MUSEUM NATURAL HISTORY
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION WASHDC W605
10 AND CONST AVE NW

222047Z

662-06143 19 AUG WIRE DATA ALSO STATUS OF STREAMERS AND NETTING

4402 BANDED

MAX C THOMPSON SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION ST GEORGE ISLAND ALS

222047Z 662-06143 19 4402 ALS

(31).

Kridler

D- 23838

Permit # 5-254

Telegram

Aug. 23, 1966

Thompson Smithsonian St. George Island Alaska

Zoo will take turnstones and any other exotic shorebirds. Data on latest band not ~~y~~ available. Arrange own permits for importing birds.

Church Smithsonian

f.c.

Telegram: Aug. 22, 1966

Max Thompson Smithsonian St. George Island Alaska.

AOW meeting Duluth Minnesota September five through nine.

Chuck Smithsonian

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

August 22, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program, Room 601W
Natural History Bldg.
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Jane:

The green memo books you sent out arrived with the air shipment about a week ago. Since then I have been having a real ball with them. I didn't get through more than three books on the ADP business before I found myself completely side-tracked. Just out of curiosity I took one of the books from Enderbury Island (for SIC # 8) and ran it against the interisland file since I knew Enderbury was one of the best islands for interisland movements. Gee was I surprised!

In the first book I checked there were no less than 35 or so birds that had made interisland movements but had not been carded for the interisland file. There were also a number of birds which had already been carded for other movements. So for the past several days I have been doing nothing but check books against the interisland movements. This morning I counted them up and found that there are about 125 previously unrecorded movements - and this is only going through about 25 of the books you sent out. If all of the rest of the books run the same way I'll get quite a few more movements into the file before I'm through. With the possibility that there are quite a few more unrecorded movements I can't do much more than beat my way through the books a few at a time.

I have enclosed a copy of a card I intend to use from now on for the interisland movements. This card will be employed when I encounter additional movements for birds that have already been carded into the file. Since I can get four or five movements on each card it will save a little duplication and typing on my part. It will also signify to you that there should already be a card for that particular bird. To be more specific, I am enclosing nine of these cards that were filled out this week from the green memo books so you can see what I'm talking about. The info here suppliments already filled out cards.

Anne

This morning I sent the revision to the inventory down to Dr. Pyle for his signature. I expect it will be mailed this afternoon or early tomorrow morning.

This morning Dick Merrill is shipping our backlog of bird skins via air freight along with a few other items. He is also sending five drums of alcoholics to you via surface freight. Tomorrow morning I plan to call Pan Amer. and make reservations for the shipment of frozen birds. I'll make the reservation for Monday morning (August 29) and will send them via Pan Amer and American Airlines to Dulles. I won't send them unless I can get a confirmed reservation along the entire route. If there is any change in the shipping date I will notify you.

Enclosed is a picture of my new assistant happily helping me work the other morning while his mother went to the dentist. That blur down in the left hand corner is me --busily at work with the rattle which he gets a kick out of because it plays music (?). Also a picture of the new look in the warehouse.

Regards, Doug

file

21 August 1966

Mr. Brian Harrington
USCG LORAN Transmitting Station
Box 57
FPO, San Francisco, Calif. 96611

Dear Brian:

I hope that everything is running smoothly there at FFS and you and Bob are getting great numbers of good returns. I hope that the storm that went south (the h on the other typewritter just broke) of the main Hawaiians didn't affect the FFS operations. I know what rain and wind can do there at FFS.

The Program badly needs some close-up pictures of ticks feeding on birds. We especially need some of Ixodes. I had planned to take some of Ixodes in June, but found none to photograph. I did find them attached to boobies, tropicbirds and noddies (mainly chicks of these) last August, but failed to photograph any of them. The Ixodes normally attach to the head and neck of their hosts, but will attach to other areas. If you find any of these I would greatly appreciate photographs showing them attached to the host.

Please give my regards to Bob, Lt. Bates and the CG crew. Ask Lane (one of the ET's)if he still wants an east coast newspaper. I just remembered that he asked me to send him one.

Best regards,

Binion Amerson

R.C.

21 August 1966

Dr. Philip S. Humphrey
Department of Vertebrate Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Phil,

I don't know whether you are in Washington or not but will write this letter anyway. As you know from my wires that things are going just fabulous here in the field. As of yesterday we had banded 4,408 birds and have picked up 741 returns including the Johnston Island bird and the"mystery" bird. The 662- band looked relatively new but our records don't show any 662 series used by the FOBSP. We have about 15 days of banding left so hope for a possible 7,000 new banded birds. The weather has been a great help until the last two days when we have had heavy rains. We also had a clear night on August 18 and we lost a large number of adult birds. This year we have plenty of immatures so no worries over numbers to band (estimated to be about 10000 left).

This letter is really to enquire about a lecture I have been ask to give here in Alaska. The Army CDB Division in Anchorage lists us on its official list of activities in Alaska, mainly because they handle our clearances etc. The Commanding General of Alaska (past one) wanted a briefing on our activities. Col. Osborn thought maybe the new Commanding General would also want a briefing. If I ha e your permission to do so, please send me any slides that you used for the IOC talk. You might also have the office send me a few select slides from the files on the Central Pacific work. Col. Miller has briefed the CBR Div. in Anchorage already on his way to the interior. If you approve this, you should have Jane send the material as soon as possible as the hour is late. We are departing St. George on September 6 for St. Paul Island. If there are Glaucous-winged Gulls there we intend to do some rocket-netting and bleeding before coming south.

I hope all goes well with you and that the IOC was a success.

Sincerely yours

Max C. Thompson

cc. Church

Brief general presentation Okay. Slides to follow airmail.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

b c.

21 August

Dear Jane:

I think the enclosed carbon is self-explanatory. I didn't know whether Phil was in D. C. or not so thought I had better send yo u a carbon just in case.

We were disappointed that the streamers didn't arrive on last weeks plane. We are completely out now so are banding without them. We assume that you forgot about them or that the airline strike delayed there arrival. Anyway most unfortunate and am sure there is a good explanation for the delay.

Just in case the band number came through garbled in the wire it is 662-06143 taken at Zapadni on August 19. The bird was an adult-unknown. We are sure anxious to hear who it belongs to. I have about75 sheets of worn bands that have to be etched to send to you but will wait until the end of the banding season I guess. I see no hurry as they are all ours except for one Japanese band.

I guess you can get the banding data from Phils letter. We are starting to pick up alot of recaptures now. Yesterday was a "subshot" and only got 101 birds, mainly due to rain and mainly it was a feeble effort not to have something on the "big" board. Of the 101 only 37were bandable.

Well it is nearly 8 a.m. and must get out a fire the net. It is still raining so guess we will just have to endure it and fire anyway.

See you in late September. I am driving back and also taking a week in Kansas. If you will send me a leave slip, I will get it signed by my dentist in Kansas for sick leave. If the AOU is so I can make it, I will go there first and then back to Kansas. Any mail after August 31 should be addressed to ~~St. Paul and after Sep~~ us %Robert Rausch, Arctic Health Research Center, ~~25~~ 945 6th St. Anchorage, Alaska and after that (Sept. 6) to Box 213, Udall, Kansas. Planes arrive on St. Paul on Wednesdays but may switch back to Monday.

Love and Kisses

P.S. Did the shorebirds ever arrive ??????? You never said ~~if~~ it has been 1½ months !!!!!!!!!!! not

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

6c.

21 August 1966

Dr. Philip S. Humphrey
Department of Vertebrate Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Phil:

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I hope all goes well with you and that the IOC was a success.

Sincerely yours

Max

Max C. Thompson

cc. Church

f.c.

Telegram

~~Hackman~~ Pyle 2394 Kalakaua Room 2
Honolulu Phone 934-851

Request banding data Kridler
number 662-06143 recovered by Thompson.
Church Smithsonian

file

August 19, 1966

Mr. Norman Heryford
P. O. Box 273
Weaverville, California

Dear Norman:

Here's hoping that you are having a fine summer--relaxing, fishing, etc. I got back here about a month ago after a very profitable trip to the Pacific.

I have been looking for the ectoparasite catalog for SIC 13, the last one you were on. Do you remember where you last saw it? Doug has turned over the Honolulu warehouse and hasn't found it and I have looked everywhere here in DC. If you have any suggestions as to where I might look for it, let me know.

Best regards,

Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

P.S. We hired Chris Thompson, from U. of Mass., to fill the vacancy that you left. He finished his undergraduate work this past June.

ZOÖLOGISCH MUSEUM
UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM
PLANTAGE MIDDENLAAN 53
AMSTERDAM-C.
TELEFOON 947555*

Amsterdam, 18 August 1966.

Mr. Patrick J.Gould,
Smithsonian Institution-
United States National Museum,
Department of Vertebrate Zoology,
Washington 25 D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Gould,

It was a pleasure for me to meet you at our museum and I was glad that we had a few specimens of interest to you, I am now mailing them separately and I trust you will receive them in due course. The loan receipt is being sent herewith.

Prof. Voous would be very much interested in looking at your paper on the distribution of Pterodroma incerta. He had to deliver a lecture at the same time you read yours, so he is not familiar with the subject. He cannot give his opinion beforehand as you will understand, but he is much in favour of papers on seabirds for Ardea.

You showed me a short note on night feeding by Sterna fuscata and Puffinus pacificus. In Ardea short "Notes on Sea Birds" are published under that heading in the December-issue. You will remember that another instance of night-feeding in Sooty Tern was reported recently as a Note on Sea Birds. But perhaps you have already submitted it for publication in another journal.

Did you receive a letter from Mr. Michael Walters concerning the formation of an unofficial "Petrel Group". Mr. Walters is very partial to seabird research but as he is not a biologist by profession he has no opportunities for active biological research himself. I can quite understand his desire to remain informed about seabird studies but I feel that it is not justified to form just another group. I have answered Mr. Walters to that effect and suggested he should try and make a literature study of old records of the different species of petrels and shearwaters. Perhaps a bibliography of Procellariiformes would be useful. However in my opinion he should contact Dr. Bourne and ask him what would be the best way of devoting his energy to petrels and shearwaters.

Separately I am sending you a few reprints, Please remember me to Dr.Watson.

Kindest regards,
yours sincerely,

Jan Wattel

(J.Wattel).

27 September, 1966

Dr. J. Wattel
Zoologisch Museum
Universiteit Van Amsterdam
Plantage Middenlaan 53
Amsterdam - C.
Holland

Dear Dr. Wattel:

I was delighted to have met and talked with you and I want to thank you for your time and help during my all too short visit. Thank you for the reprints. I hope that you will forgive the long delay in my answering your letter. During the three weeks that I was in Europe work piled up back at the office. This plus getting ready to spend a month in the field during October has kept me very busy since my return. Thank you for sending the specimens. Enclosed is the envoice for your files.

It will be several months before the manuscript on Pterodroma externa is completed.# When finished I will send a copy to Dr. Voous in the hope that it will be acceptable for publication in Ardea. My short note on Nocturnal Feeding has already been submitted to the Condor.

I did receive a letter from Mr. Walters and my reaction was the same as y ours. It was not until the end of the Oxford meetings that I became aware of his interest in seabirds. It is a shame that he was not aware of the diccussions on this topic that occurred at those meetings.

Sincerely yours,

Patrick J. Gould
Research Curator
Pacific Project

POBSP
Division of Birds
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

18 August, 1966

Dear Mrs. Church,

Well I am on my way to Washington but due to the (#$%?♂+**$"###&_''?♀=-32m##') air line strike I have been held up. I plan to stop off in Iowa on the way to settle some business matters there and visit a few of the relatives before arriving in Washington. Dr. Pyle has informed me that you and I can settle per diem and leave problems. He also told me that he has informed you about my plans to go to Africa. Would you please have my papers, and whatever else is necessary, ready for leaving the project when I arrive. I don't know how much time I will have. I hope that this request doesn't place any particular burden on your already-busy schedule.

Until I arrive at S.I. give all my regards. Thank you.

Dick Maze

P.S. Please hold my mail until I get to S.I.

WESTERN UNION
TELEX SERVICE

NAVCOMSTA WSH

1966 AUG 16 AM 2 0

TLX030 GOVT PD

WASHINGTON DC A16 111A EDT

TELTEX-THIS MESSAGE
RECEIVED DIRECT FROM
SENDER VIA W.U. TELEX

PHILIP HUMPHREY ZERTEBRETE ZOOLOGY
10 AND CONST 369 MUSEUM NATURAL HISTORY
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION WASHDC

TLX

152040Z

SUGGEST 20 INNATURES BE CAPTURED FOR NZP FOR MOLT STUDIES

WILL SHIP EARLY SEPT. IF APPROVED

THOMPSON SMITHSONIAN INST ST GEORGE ISLAND ALS

August 16, 1966

Max Thompson and Bob DeLong
St. George, Alaska

Dear Heroes:

How is the cold and frozen northland? It is bound to be better than what we've had here for most of the summer so don't complain even when the snow flies.

Delighted to hear about your Johnston Atoll turnstone - I was talking to John Bushman today about something else and told him - told Drs. Ely and Humphrey - told the WORLD! Glad you have to work so late at night since you are getting so many birds!!!

We sent the camouflage netting off to you the day we heard you neeeded it (that is what is known as a long need!). Recovery forms have been sent. Incidently, don't put birds which die on St. George and have previously been banded on St. George on recovery forms unless you only have an odd one or two - we are starting a system of reporting these birds on long hheets or some sort of new way, anyway. This may not be practical for you anyway but if you should have several just list them on a sheet of paper and send them in.

Max - your name looks good in the IOC program! I gather that the talks all went off well and that our people all had excellent results from their museum work in London. It's gooddto have them back here though.

I think that Jan and Chuck both liked their presents from the Project - they are really very good-looking and I should think that anyone would be glad to have either of them! We also had the gag tie and blouse with orange (and other-colored) streamers on it for them - they thought that that was all they would be receiving and were astonished after dinner to get the real things! We'll all miss them.

To work - I'm helping Keenan with banding returns which are alarmingly high! (This means, I think, about five inches!) She has finished all the various illustrating jobs which she had to do and should be able to tackle them with vigor now. Vacations eat into time here and we never get really far ahead on things.

You asked about AOU dates - September 5-9 at Duluth - don't quite think you'll make it. We're having trouble getting things cleared now and only have two paper to be presented - one on tern migration (Chuck's) and the other on the Newell's Shearwater (Warren). We should be hearing from Warren again before too long - he's been traversing the white water which no white man has ever before traversed. My typewriter ribbon is tired and so am I - cheers and may the turnstones be so numerous that you get only as much sleep as the SIC men.

fc -

August 15, 1966 PSH-1

Dear Mrs. Church:

I have completed the analysis of the Wedgetailed Shearwater data except for some weight conversions which I should finish this week. In the past ten days I have been working on the Common Noddy Tern data and it is now nearing completion. I will send both species as soon as I get them in final form. They should be mailed late this week or early next week.

I received a letter from Dr. Humphrey dated July 22 which included some instructions and suggestions for handling of data. I will begin work on these as soon as I have completed the work in progress.

As far as I am concerned at this end it is not necessary for you to send my checks via registered mail. Unless dictated otherwise regular air mail is adequate.

As Always

Bob

R. R. Fleet

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

15 August 1966

Phone — Bronx Zoo

Dear Jane:

Just a quick short note. The ship is leaving today about a day earlier than expected.

Things are going real well in fact excellent. Since I sent you the wire this morning we took another 400+ birds so you can see if we don't crack 5,000 new banded birds it ain't because we arent trying. As a matter of fact we are really beat keeping up the pace. The Sand-Johnston return was a big boost in moral and should be good enough for a few more days.

The down jacket deal seems reasonable to both Bob and I. We will let you know this fall what we decide to do.

I knew when I sealed that last letter saying anything about Crossin leaving that you were going to jump to conclusions. As far as I know Dick is not leaving. You can now exhale. He like all of us is looking for greener pastures I am sure.

The streamers I hope are on this Wednesday's plane. We are down to about 15,00 and that isn't going to last at all the way we are getting birds. We now have over 600 returns.

I am glad that Pyle is working out so well. It is a hard transition from one boss to another and if the new one is good it makes it that much easier.

I sent a wire to Humphrey today asking him to ask the zoo if they would keep 20 immatures Ruddy Turnstone for us for molt studies. I will bring them back in Sept.

The Kelez has no accomodations for us this year so we will be coming in early. The Pribilof is leaving around Sept. 5 cutting us off so we will be coming back the first week in September. I wouldlike to attend the AOU but don't know the date nor place.

The camouflage netting works beautifully, one of the reasons for our increased success.

A new Pacific Project first!!!! We have banded 3 Baird's Sandp. How on that?? Lovely tame little birds. Just set under the net and wait their turn

I willbe stopping by Kansas and bring my car to DC. Could you please checkffor me and see if I can wrangle a parking place?? Thanks.

Looks like the end. Hope all is well. Look forward to seeing you in 3-4 weeks. Yours - Mark

WESTERN UNION TELEX SERVICE

WU TELTEX WSH

NAVCOMSTA WSH

TLX106 GOVT PD

WASHINGTON DC 15 639P EDT

JANE CHURCH PACIFIC PROJECTS
W605 MUSEUM NATURAL ~~XXX~~ HISTORY
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION WASHDC
10TH AND CONST AVE NW

1966 AUG 15 PM 6 40

341

TELTEX-THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED DIRECT FROM SENDER VIA W.U. TELEX

152040Z

RETURN 642-01165 TAKEN 14 AUG NO KELEZ CRUISE SEND AOU MEETING DATE AND PLACE 2676 TO DATE

THOMPSON SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION ST GEORGE ISLAND ALS

RT C 69-A,W, banded
Sand - Johnston October 19, 1964.

WU TELTEX WSH

NAVCOMSTA WSH

V

1966 AUG 15 PM 6 58

1966 AUG 15 PM 6 40

TELTEX-THIS MESSAGE
RECEIVED DIRECT FROM
SENDER VIA W.U. TELEX

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST

August 15, 1966

I suppose that each week should start with notification of draft board notices - this week we have a guarantee that Rick Chandler will be in 2-A until June, 1967 - congratulations to you Rick. Incidently, will everyone please put some pressure on Rick to advise us of a bank where we can send his checks? They keep piling up here and he either doesn't know the S. I. address or is agin letter-writing. I've written to him a couple of times to no avail - if one and all says to him each time he sees him" "Have you written about your checks?" this might help!

A note from John Fitch mentions that his bat research is progressing nicely - he should be heading for Honolulu before too long and one trusts that he has made reservations.

Max and Bob have apparently finally learned how to operate the cannon net - they got 474 birds in one shot! They have macerated their camouflage netting, though, so we airmailed some off to them - a net to hide a net! A wire this morning gives us another first: 642 - 01165banded Sand, Johnston, 6-69, A, U, October 19, 1964, taken August 14, 1966 at St. George!!! This is a pretty good bird!! Max and Bob have banded 2676 to date and should go over their three thousand plus of last year with no difficulty. We shipped them 5,000 bilious green streamers Friday so be watching for them. Bob is wearing those magnificent red flight coveralls for banding - hope that Max will take a colored pictured for the Project archives! I almost forgot what is probably the most important part of the St. George various reports - they are getting Hong Kong bands (presumably put on in Japan) and also huge percentages of returns, about 20 percent! I've misplaced the wire which gave the numbers but out of somewhere around 1100 birds banded there was an addition 240 (approximately) which returned.

We haven't seen any paper work from the first half of SIC #14 which we have to do anything about but we have preliminary reports in on Gardner, Howland, Baker and McKean. Roger reports that the departure of the Gilbertese from Gardner has not changed the vegetation to any great extent. The first BFBooby was sighted - that's not well put - I mean that the first POBSP sighting of a BF Booby was made. There was an unusually high population of shorebirds of all species present. We also got a first record of the Blue-tailed Skink from Gardner.

Howland - a new plastic tape marking system was started for nests. If it stands up well in August, it might be worth using elsewhere. "Thirty-three nests were marked with strips of red or yellow plastic adhesive tape so that any change in nest status between the July and August...visits might be determined. Nests with an egg were marked with two strips of tape, nests with young were marked with one strip of tape, and the number of each nest was written on the nest marker." Another interesting result of the search for banded birds was with the Red-foots - they tried to capture only roosting birds (not on or near nests) and 13 of the 15 captured were from other islands! Two more Munro-banded birds (Sooties) were retaken. Banding totals: 32,180 new banding and 2, 192 returns, 32 Berlese samples, 32 specimens.

McKean - new specimen - a "long dead, beach dried" Sooty Shearwater was found by Huber. Also there were large numbers of the nymphalid butterfly, Hypolimnas bolina, which had not been recorded during earlier POBSP visits. Banding - 2542, 231 returns, 19 specimens collected.

Baker - the men were only on Baker for three hours and nothing startlingly new appears to have been noticed there (this may be my misinterpretation so apologies to Roger if I've left out deathless prose).

We had a drinks and supper party for Chuck and Jan Ely last night at the Church's new apartment in Washington (picked because of convenience to S.I.). We're not a very large group here now but we were a lively one - Jan now wears (or presumably will wear) a gold pin with matching earrings and Chuck can correct papers in two colors of ink from an onyx pen stand which should cost a pretty penny in overweight baggage charges! We had "With Appreciation - P.O.B.S.P. - 1963 - 1966" on it - it makes it harder to pawn, of course, but a little more personal. Everyone made it in to work eventually but it was slower for some than others - rumor has it that Jan Reese is here but he must be (appropriately) over in the alcoholic room on the other side!

DROPPINGS FOR Aug. 15th

843-77020 - American Golden Plover, I-U, banded at St. George, Alaska on 09-03-65 was found dead in a grass field on 10-21-65 at Aza Nozuka, Kiroo-machi, Hiroo-gun, Hokkaido, Japan.

823-05316 Sooty Tern, J-U, banded on Sand-Johnston on 05-11-65 was found dead at door of recover's home at Otsu, Muramatsu-cho, Nakakanbara-gun, Niigata Prefecture, Japan on 09-18-65.

737-36527 Laysan Albatross, J-U, banded at Pearl and Hermes Reef on 03-07-63 was "obtained" by the Dai-hachi-shigetoku-maru (the eighth Shigetoku-maru Fishing ship) Kushikino-ski, Kagoshima Pref., Japan on 01-04-64

737-24833 Laysan Albatross, J-U, banded on North Is., Pearl and Hermes Reef on 06-23-63 was "obtained" at sea 29.45N - 150.50E by the Eleventh Yoshiryomaru Fishing ship on 02-19-64.

712-05209 Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded at St. George Is., Alaska on 08-11-65 was "obtained" at Myodenba, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba, Japan (35.41N-139.57E) on 05-05-66.

712-05967 Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded St. George, Alaska on 08-20-65 was "obtained" at Shinhama, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba, Japan on 05-06-66. It was rebanded with a Hong-Kong Band # 050-05893 together with original band which was somewhat difficult to read.

712-06109 Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded St. George, Alaska on 08-21-65 was obtained at Shinhama, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba, Japan on 05-06-66 and new band put on # 050-05866 along with old band.

712-06784 Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded St. George, Alaska on 08-24-65 was obtained on 05-05-66 at Myodenba, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba, Japan.

712-07224
712-07225 Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded at St. George, Alaska on 08-26-65 was obtained on 05-05-66 at Myodenba, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba, Japan.

712-07323 Ruddy Turnstone, A-U, banded on ST. George, Alaska on 08-26-65 was obtained by a school student on 05-28-66 at Baraki, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba, Japan . The carcass was carried to the Shinhama Duck Refuge.

635-25457 Wedge-tailed Shearwater A-U, banded on Manana 06-02-66 was found dead on the beach at Kaneohe, Oahu on 06-05-66.

777-55994 Lesser Frigatebird, I-U, banded on Enderbury 02-14-66was found by a boy in the Fiji Islands. The bird was taken home, the band removed and the bird flew away the following day. This was on 06-05-66.

777-55787 Great Frigatebird, I-U, banded on Enderbury 02-14-66 was captured alive by a patrolman at the Municipality of Boljoon in Cebu province on 03-16-66.

f.c.

10 August 1966

Dear Doug:

The ectoparasite material arrived in excellent condition this morning. I have gone over it hurriedly and their ~~is~~ are some fine specimens there. Jaye Cee has already started to work on the material. The next question is...Was there an ectoparasite catalog for SIC #12??? Jane said that no material had come back from that trip. I looked through Normans field notes without any luck. If the ectoparasite catalog for that trip is still in Honolulu, please send it back. If I remember correct, there were several boxes of ectoparasite material in Paul Woodwards room at the Hawaiian King. Do you have these or know where they are? Send these as soon as possible.

Regards,

Binion Amerson

f. C.

9 August 1966

Dr. Robert Pyle
P.O. Box 8095
Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Bob:

Enclosed is the original and two copies of the sera sample data from the June FFS trip. I sent Doug a handwritten copy of this last week and told him I would forward the typed copies as soon as they were finished.

Would you ask Doug to send me the dimensions of a Berlese funnel set-up. I looked for the dimensions here in DC so that we may have another set made, but couldn't find them.

What is the status of the revised POBSP Field Manual? I remember that Chuck was working on it back in May. Jane said she has not received any of it for typing. Also, I cannot find the aerial photographs of the Leeward Hawaiian Islands here in DC either. I will ask Chuck about them next week.

Best regards,

Binion Amerson

WESTERN UNION
TELEX SERVICE

H & H. Binkley
LI 70322
f.c.

TLX098 GOVT PD

WASHINGTON DC 9 1250A EDT

JAME CHURCH PACIFIFIC PROJECT SMITHSONIAN INST

1966 AUG 9 AM 3 38

WASHDC W605 MUSEUM NATL HISTORY 10 AND CONST NW

013

TELTEX-THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED DIRECT FROM SENDER VIA W.U. TELEX

090056Z

TLX

SEND 300 FEET CAMOUFLAGE NETTING DIRECT FROM DEALER

AIR MAIL NEED ADDITIONAL 5000 GREEN STREAMERS THREE EIGHTS

INCH WIDE TO DATE 1188 BANDED 295 RETURNS 16 RECOVERIES

INCLUDING 4 HONG KONG BANDS

MAX C THOMPSON SMITHSONIAN INST ST GEORGE ISLAND ALS

ordered 8/9/66

Telegram sent
8-8

C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaiser Dr

Van Waters & Rogers P.O. #

51P- 7-0009.

Church
5. f.

August 8, 1966

Mr. Philip Shelton
USCG
LORAN STATION
APO, SF, California 96305

Dear Phil:

I read your Sand report and thought it to be tops - congratulations. I certainly enjoyed my few days on Sand. It was good to see the island again. By the way, the C 124 I came back on had one of its engines to go out half way to Honoluly. We had no problems however, it just slowed the plane down somewhat.

Would you look in the skinning kit that has my name on it (on one of the shelves) and see if you can find a small motor? It is a spare motor for a portable insect light trap which we have in Honolulu. The motor is about 1 inch in diameter and about 3 inches long. If it is there would you send it to Doug? Attach a note to it telling him what it is and ask him to give it to Chris Thompson.

Regards,

Binion Amerson

August 8, 1966

Mr. Frederic C. Thompson
10 Edmunds Road
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts

Dear Chris:

Enclosed are copies of (1) a compilation of keys to Anthropods of Medical Importance and (2) excerpts from "A Manual of the Chiggers." I will be sending other things to you as we obtain them ("CDC Manual" and "A Manual of Parasitic Mites") or get them copied.

I am pleased that you accepted the entomological position with the POBSP and am looking forward to working with you.

Best regards,

A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
Research Curator
Pacific Program

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

bc

8 August 1966

Need about 150 more recovery sheets. Please Getting to many worn bands

Dear Jane:

In haste. We have a shot ready to go but the boat is coming this afternoon and must get these letters off. We are going great guns this year. Up to this morning we have banded 1313 and obtained 315 returns. We are running about 20% returns each day. The new equipment is great. We made a shot to end all shots and got 474 birds. We have been working extremely late hours because of these large shots. Yesterday we left the house at 0630 and got back and 11 p.m. This has been going on now since August 1 and we are dead but will get another 400 today just the same.

I sent you a wire yesterday. The camouflage netting is the cats meow as the birds come right back into the net with it. The only rub is that it is extremely fragile and probably won't make to many shots. We are already getting big rips in it. We only have a short piece in reserve so will be waiting anxiously for it. The streamers are urgent as we are about 1200 birds ahead of last year already and last year we handed 4500 birds. That means we could really go to nearly 7-8000 this year or more. So we need those as soon as possible. We hope they are already threaded but will take them anyway if not. We don't have much time on our hands this month to set around and do them.

The weather has been something short of fantastic. The lakes are drying up and have big mud flats on them. The sun shines daily it seems and is wonderful. We just hope the birds don't decide to pack up and leave on these clear nights although we are not loosing any yet. The migration ist starting now. We have small flocks of Baird's Sandpipers here now which is uncommon on St. Goerge says the books ha. We have about 10000 Ruddy Turnstones here now and there are alot of red rumps in them now. The number of returns floors me as I had expected on the basis of last year to get a total of 600 for the year. I am already half there. I expect it to start tapering off now though as the young will be dribbling in now. We took the first yesterday. We have taken 5 Hong Kong bands. I am sending a list of them to MCClure in the mail today and you can submit the official ones to the banding office or however you do it. I am sure they are banded in Japan just the same even though they are not Japanese bands.

Enclosed is the monthly report which is pretty feeble but done in about 30 minutes. Actually it covers everything and is to the point.

I must close and get to East. Hope all is well and that the IOC people were a big success.

My best

Mary

P.S. Got 250 more birds this evening at 7:30 sigh. Sure makes a long day.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
August 8, 1966

Another week of heat and humidity is upon us here in Washington. The mail hasn't arrived in the office yet, but when it does we are all hoping for some news from the troops. A letter from Jan Ely from Oxford last week stated that they are having a glorious time and enjoying the typical British weather - rainy and cool - they are all expected back here in DC late Friday (August 12th and we are all anxiously awaiting their return.

Dr. Pyle reports from a letter from Dick Crossin that the first half of SIC 14 went very well. A new grid pattern was tried and was successful. Banding operations on Howland went well although numbers of Sooty Terns banded slackened. The entire crew of the SIC 14 did well and everyone is looking forward to a successful second half. Ralph Schreiber will go to Kure from Honolulu to replace Dick Maze and Phil Shelton on Sand will remain there through September.

We have another Thompson with the Project - F. Christian Thompson (Chris). Chris was interviewed last Tuesday and was signed on. He will leave Massachusetts on the 2nd of September for Honolulu. He holds a BS from University of Massachusetts with a major in Entomology. Welcome aboard Chris!

Brian Harrington is now classified 2A until July 1967. We all breathed a sigh of relief when the notice came in here from his local draft board. Lately we all seem to cringe whenever the mail brings these famous notices. The mail today should bring us details on paper about our own new Currituck which we believe was purchased last week from the Pleasure Craft Company. It is scheduled to arrive in Honolulu about September 1st. Jane spent one whole day last week firming up the details of the purchase and the last word was that it would be shipped via boat to Honolulu. Speaking of ships, Dr. Pyle said there may be a ship available for a Leeward cruise in October, but more on that later.

Here are a few returns which were received during the week:

737-34235 - Black-footed Albatross, A-U, banded on Pearl and Hermes Reef on 03-01-63; captured on a fishing line off a Japanese fishing ship on 07-02-66. The band was removed and the bird set free. The ship was located 23 nautical miles northwest off Hachinohe, Japan.

893-57889 - Sooty Tern, N-U, banded on Manana Island, 05-31-66; found dead and washed ashore at Makapuu Beach Park on the eastern tip of Oahu Island on 06-03-66.

682-45124 - Fairy Tern, banded on Phoenix Island, A-U, 05-27-65; taken and released on Phoenix on 04-15-66. Recovery during handling on McKean 04-17-66.

Not much news from the DC office today. Ruth is back with us this morning after being out most of last week. She was shopping when a stack of TV tables fell over on her and badly bruised her leg. Binion is back iceskating again. Yes, even in August! He went up to Delaware, but returned the same day. He said that even though it's been a while he didn't forget anything and didn't take any spills. I am sure that one of these days we will be represented in the Olympics. Last week also seemed to be checkup week for the female Project members. Everyone who went, returned smiling and in good health, for which we are all grateful.

That's it for today.....

F L A S H ---- Binion received a letter from Dr. Brennan (who is identifying the POBSP chiggers) who reports that the latest POBSP chigger collection contained a few undescribed species. These will be described in a forthcoming paper. Field personnel are asked to look for additional chiggers so that they can possibly be included in this paper.

c: Dr. Pyle, Files

August 5, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive, Apt 2
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

I don't know what to suggest that we do about the string of bands 652-27001 through 27100. They were the ones which Max reported in two different places as being used on Phoenix.

I talked with Jack Paradiso to whom they had originally been issued for bats. Jack checked with the man in Kentucky to whom they had been sent and that man returned the string of bands, unused, and I have seen it! We haven't processed the schedule here and I haven't checked through the two bands to see what it could be. I rather think though that there are no 270s in any series. In that case I suppose we should try to see what there is in the way of 370s or possibly 207s. I'll do whatever you decide to do about it - in other words, I'm passing the buck.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

b.c

August 5, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program, Room 601W
Smithsonian Instituion
Washington, D.C.

Dear Jane:

It looks more and more like the air strike won't really be settled for another week or so. It will take them quite a while to get things rolling smoothly again once they have started flying. In view of this we have pulled the Newell's Shearwaters out of the shipment that has been waiting here and have packed them up for Pat Gould. These will be air mailed out of here this afternoon. They are packed in a double box arrangement and the McBee cards have been included. The box is addressed to you.

I just started checking through Rich Heiden's banding records and found that I had an error in some previous records (I think). He reports the series 712-09101-09200 on Bulwer's Petrels from Nihoa. I had previously carried this series as being used on McKean Island in April 1966. But checking back I am pretty certain this series should have been 712-08101 since all of the bands on both side of this series were used on McKean in April 1966. Will you please check the ~~xh~~ schedules and see if 712-09101 has been reported and then run it down in the green memo books (which were mailed out of here a few days ago). I have changed things so that 712-08101 is reported from McKean and 712-09101 is reported from Nihoa.

This listing is much larger than I want it to be but there isn't anything I can do about it. As long as poeple insist on breaking their strings down and making 35 or so entries per string of 100 bands the listing will be difficult to work up. I am trying very hard to cut down on the number of strings that are broken up as many of these are.

Could I please have eight copies of this listing. Once these are received I will send copies to both Sand-Johnston and Kure from out here. I would like very much to have the copies back here before the next SIC trip departs around September 4-5. I had hoped to get these sheets to you sooner but Chuck's request for totals arrived and then more and more banding records came in and I kept adding onto them. The listing is now up-to-date for Sand-Johnston and Kure and all other activities but the SIC trip through ~~Augux~~ July 15.

Hope all is well back there. Regards to all.

Doug

5 August 1966

Dear Doug:

Enclosed you will find a xerox copy of my handwritten sera data from FFS. Since most of the typists are out today, it probably won't get typed until next week some time. So I am sending this copy in case you need it before we can send typed copies out there.

Guess what I did??? I left out 17 FFS Blue-faced Booby returns not only from the worksheets, but also in the band book. I caught it while going over the sera data. I am enclosing a xerox copy of the worksheet which contains the added returns, if you are interested in them.

Mary says she is planning on sending you a "humdinger" of a listing next week. She said something about discrepances so look out!!!

Ask Dick if he knows where the insect light trap is located. It was in the warehouse, but parts of it may now be lost. If you can't find it, let me know so that I can procure another. I have enclosed a drawing of the trap. Chris will take one with him next trip.

Jane says to tell you that your cards arrived today and that Betty is trying to figure out some way to duplicate them.

Regards,

Binion

August 4, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive, Apt 2
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

By all means go ahead and type the duplicate card when you do yours. We can always check it against the returns when they come in.

I had wondered if birds which go back to the original island of banding which have previously been on another island have all those records up to date. How I wish I had time to fool around with this sort of thing! I was thinking of, for example, a Sooty Tern banded on Sand which then went to French Frigate and was picked up on Sand later. I am presuming that you would have to check all the Sand Island returns against the cards for interisland and I don't see how you would know that this had happened without doing this. This could be a nice little project for one of those rainy afternoons when there is nothing else to do!

I am looking forward to Rock Run this weekend - I haven't been anywhere for some time to do just nothing. I do not expect to do any work there.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

August 4, 1966

Mr. Brian Harrington
P. O. Box 8095
Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Brian:

Under separate cover I sent you a copy of the June FFS Trip Report. I hope it will be of help to you for the upcoming trip. There should be copies of last August's Trip Report in Honolulu. If there is not a copy you can take to FFS, write me and I will forward one to you there.

I am enclosing a copy of a suggested Survey Plan for the August FFS Trip which is a modification of the June plan. I sent Dr. Pyle copies also and he may desire to change, alter, add to, or delete any part of it. Also attached to the Survey Plan is a tentative itinerary for visiting the various islands in the atoll. It is, of course, subject to change due to local conditions, but is set up to cover the most important islands for a longer period of time. The itinerary will put you back on Tern each Wednesday, which of course is one day before the plane arrives each week.

The equipment is stored in three places: (1) Boathouse - bands, misc. gear, (2) old ham shack (east end of Tern) - boat, motor and anchor, and (3) gun locker, shotgun and shells. You should get new air pump connections for the boat that is on FFS. The old ones are very tight.

Last August the lagoon was very calm, however, this last June it was (at times) quite rough. You can go almost anywhere in the lagoon without any problems as most of the reefs are exposed (the others are easily visible under the water). I have enclosed a map showing the routes we used. You can see in the June Report where we camped on each island. I forgot to indicate the spot on Trig, but it was at the east end of the island. We tried other places last year and found the ticks to be too bad.

Most of the nestling boobies and tropicbirds have been banded, but some could have hatched since we left (some were also too small to band). We only banded 10 nestling Great Frigatebirds on Whale since the majority were too small. These need to be banded. I hope you will be able to band a lot of the noddies (both species) on Whale as you should get some good returns from them. Since we failed to get on Gin, Little Gin, Round and La Perouse, every effort should be made to visit these islands. The first three should have a lot of Blue-faced Boobies on them and possibly a few noddies. If you get on to La Perouse (its a bad landing) band some of the Brown Boobies as that is the only island in the atoll where they nest. Also look for Blue-gray Noddies as they have never

been recorded from the atoll. They are found west of FFS at Gardner Pinnacles.

I hope you and Bob have a most enjoyable and profitable trip to FFS. If you have further questions please write me and I'll write you at FFS.

Best regards,

cc: Dr. Pyle

Binion Amerson

August 4, 1966

Mr. Brian Harrington
PO Box 8095
Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Brian:

My golden pearls worked again - you are 2A for another year. Congratulations!

Best regards,

Jane Church
Pacific Project

PS. Just for your information, Bob Tuxson is about as inexperienced as a man could be. He is pleasant, cooperative, seems to work hard, is well liked by all of us back here - but he is very naive and some of his questions will probably astonish you. I think that you will enjoy working with him however and that he will be a good addition to the Project after some of the newness has worn off.

August 4, 1966

Dear Doug:

Many thanks for your letter of 1 August. I am enclosing a copy of the June 1966 FFS inter-island bird returns. There are a few blank spaces; maybe you can fill them in. You made several errors in transfering figures when combining some of the worksheets. Great Frigatebird 767-45638 should have been 45638 and 767-45468 should have been 45469. Also Red-footed Booby 767-40293 was left off the worksheet. Also RFB 767-41411 was returned on 06-12-66 instead of 06-10-66.

Please send the ectoparasite material on to me, strike or no strike. Kure sent a box on July 20 which arrived yesterday morning. Jaye Cee goes on vacation for two weeks on the 15th of this month and I would like to get the material accessioned before he leaves. I asked him if he had received any material from the last SIC trip and he said no. I would like this material so that I can prepare new island ectoparasite reports prior to the next SIC trip scheduled to leave early in September.

We hired an assistant entomologist yesterday. He is Chris Thompson from Mass. and seems like a very competent person. Do we have any Ethyl Acetate in the warehouse? If not, would you get a pint for Chris to use in the kill jars. He will also want to take the disecting microscope on the next SIC trip.

Since I have been busy on the FFS report, I still have not made that sera listing for you. I will work on that tomorrow.

Best regards,

Binion

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

August 4, 1966

Dear Jane:

One very important item of business: is the purchase order on the way? If not I am going to have problems in outfitting SIC in September. At present I am down to about 500 syringes which certainly isn't enough for an SIC trip. I'll need at least 14-18 days after the purchase order is received in order to get the supplies - if the air strike is over by then. If not it may take a little longer. If the purchase order doesn't get here in time I will be forced to go downtown and pick up enough to get the trip through (which would mean buying from 500-700 syringes.) Please check on this and see if you can prod things along a little bit.

This morning Dick Merrill, Schreiber and Tuxton went out to Pearl City, picked up the four rafts we tried to write off ever so long ago and took them to the Property Disposal Section at Pearl Harbor - which is located only about 2 miles from the Pearl City Warehouse. They also took three of the six tents we were trying to unload (the other three are presently on the Shearwater and will be disposed of when the trip returns). It was all a very simple procedure because the people already had all of the paper work from the contractor (or the auditor...whoever they came from).

The file cards were shipped yesterday --- air mail, registered. When you get them you'll notice that I have been rooting through the returns as they passed through here and have found a number of birds that have returned to their "home" islands after having been captured on one or more other islands. You might put someone on this sort of thing before duplicating the cards. This would be a relatively simple thing to do by merely going to the schedule and checking the facing page on which the number of the return sheet has been listed. By doing so you could get a record of all of that particular bird's many movements. This would give us a better picture of some of the movements that have taken place. I would suggest doing this only for Blue-faced Boobies and Red-footed Boobies. It would give us just a little bit more ammunition to use when the time came to start writing about some of these birds.

I am presently hanging onto some more banding schedules and return sheets from various island stations since they were submitted with some data missing. I have written asking for clarifications which should be back soon. In the meantime, I'll hang onto all of the records. (You should have enough to keep you busy for a while, anyhow).

I have also just finished the additions to the species listings. The new edition is a rather bulky one due to the way certain band strings were used. I am trying to discourage this type of banding with varying degrees of success. I hope that future listings won't be so bulky. I'd like to have these back in time for the departure of the next SIC trip in September, if at all possible.....otherwise that trip's listings will be more than 200,000 birds behind.

I'm also working on the latest edition of the inventory. Everytime I start on it there is another interruption (such as Chuck's request for totals). Maybe this time I'll be able to get all of the way through the darn thing.

Regards,

Doug

3 Aug 1966

Dear Mrs. Church,

just got back from the trip on the YAG from Portland. Not too productive interms of numbers, but did see a few species of interest----Fulmar, skua and migrating shorebirds including one Western snadp.. One day say only 11 birds, 10 of wich were albatross.

Reason for writing? Wish you could please foward my first class mail, especially statements from Rhode Island Hospital Trust Bank which I think have been sent to the museum. I am writing them requesting that the statements be sent here, but wish you would send the ones that you have now.

Anne 8-8

I guess I am slated to go out to Frengh Frigate with Bob Tuxon on the 11th of August. He'll probably be there for two weeks and myself for three. That's about all of the Harrington news and requests for a while. Cheerio and hope you get in some Fall birding. Oh yes, could you drop me a line as soon (or if) there is any change in my draft status. I hope that if I am drafted that I shall have time to inlist in some other service. This can be done if a person is quick, so would really appreciate swift notice if there are any developments.

That's about it, so again, cheerio!

Brian

file fc

August 2, 1966

Mr. David Bratley
Box 518
Washburn, Wisconsin 54891

Dear David:

I opened the letter you wrote to Chuck just on the chance that it was connected with the AOU Meeting. Chuck is still in England and will not be back until the end of next week so I am afraid there is nothing he can do about a reference until then. I'll give him your letter with a copy of this letter but it might be a good idea to tell Mr. Christenson that Dr. Ely is out of the country.

Everybody here is working on the AOU paper! Keenan is doing slides, I've been tracking down banding data, Chuck sent in the completed paper from England and it arrived yesterday. The one thing that's worrying me in your letter is that you say that "whether I will be at the AOU meeting for the first two days is difficult to say ... but will be there the last 3 days for sure since it is over the Labor Day weekend." The meetings start on Monday, Labor Day, and run the rest of the week as I understand it. Maybe you'd better check on this as we would hate to have you miss the meetings!

Dr. Humphrey expects to be at the meetings and I think Warren King will be there and possibly Pat Gould but nobody else from here except Dick Crossin will be going. Of course that could change between now and then and I hope that more people will be able to get there.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.)
Pacific Project

c: Dr. Ely

2 August 1966

Dear Mrs. Church,

I arrived in Honolulu safely, without any mishaps or major delays. Dr. Pyle met me at the airport and drove me to the Hawaiian King.

The primary reason for this letter is to check and make sure that I had notified you that my checks should be sent to the National Bank of Washington. My checking account number is (6-120-415). Might I also request that my per diem salary reimbursement checks be sent to me directly at the P.O. Box here in Honolulu? In other words I would only want my bimonthly salary checks sent to the bank.

I have met Brian Harrington and Ralph Schreiber, but do not expect

to meet any of the other field personnel because they're on the SIC cruise.

Please give my hello's to all back there and tell them that the islands are just great! Thanks again.

Yours,

Bob Tuxoon.

P.S.H.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
August 2, 1966

Well, here we are after another week of Washington heat and humidity. We have all survived though but everyone is wishing for about a week of steady rain. It is surely needed.

Jeff Tordoff left the Project last Friday to return to Ann Arbor and begin school this fall. He and Binion spent the whole week working on the FFS Report which is now completed and is being typed. Bob Tuxson left here on Thursday for Honolulu with a stopover in Los Angeles. He was due to arrive in Honolulu last evening and begin his long-awaited field work for the Project. A prospective employee is coming in tomorrow for an interview. He is F. C. Thompson who is an entomologist from University of Massachusetts. Binion and Jane will interview him tomorrow and if things are favorable, he will be signed on and shipped out to the field. We just received WERO that Dick Maze will be leaving us about late August or thereabouts to teach (we think). Also, poor Ken Balcomb has to report to Uncle Sam on September 7 for Army Green. Even though the office staff never met Ken we wish him well and are sorry to see him leave. We have another victim of "mal de mer" - Ralph Schreiber. He left Pago Pago and the SIC and returned to Honolulu. We are sure that he will enjoy island work and terra firma!

We had a letter from Dr. Ely yesterday from London. They are enjoying their stay and from all reports he is through being speaker #1 at any Congress. The projectionist was late in arriving and being the first speaker had to suffer through until all the kinks were out of the projector. They also had trouble receiving their mail at the Congress. Some of it was misdirected to another Congress being held in the same place but eventually the Elys tracked down their own mail.

Jane has been trying all week to obtain a Whaler for the Project but at present has had no luck. She spent at least one whole day calling the West Coast speaking with vendors, etc., but there is still hope.

There was a letter from Max yesterday. Their turnstone work was delayed because of the weather. They have had five straight days of sunshine without any wind which isn't conducive to migration. They did however see a total of 395 turnstones and are about 3% banded as near as they can tell. They report two returns: 652-494448, Rock Sandpiper, I-U, banded on Zapandi Killing Ground, St. George, on 09-01-64; 63-192736, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, A-U, banded on St. George on 07-31-64. The Rock Sandpiper was a POBSP first. They have banded over 130 Rosy Finches and about 25 Snow Buntings and 25 Rock Sandpipers. We are attaching the Alaskan Supplement to Droppings "Puffin Poo" which came in yesterday too. Also attached are some copies of the new Pay scale which were sent to us from Personnel for distribution.

Puffin Poo

THE MONTHLY WIPER OF THE
ST. GEORGE NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY

Vol. I July 1966 No. I

The breeding season for the cliff birds is now in full swing. The murres and kittiwakes are laying and we suspect the puffins and auklets are also. We were able to get to one Fulmar nest (but not without much sweating and worrying about the 50 feet to the ground). The egg had an embryo about one week old. We took a trip around the island in a skiff and were amazed at the number of Fulmars nesting on St. George. The population is guessed at between 20,000 and 50,000 birds. The skiff trip also changed our ideas about the number of Crested Auklets. They are much more abundant than previously suposed.

The trip around Dalnoi Point on the western end of the island was an exciting one with about 3,000 sealions taking to the water and swimming around our boat. This was the first time that anyone had found young pups on St. George and Dalnoi can now take on the status of a rookery instead of just a hauling ground. The big bulls would probably weigh in at around 2,000 pounds.

A new check-list of Pribilof Island birds was drawn up in June. We can now say there are 170 birds recorded from the islands. Of this number, the SI field party has added eleven to the list not to mention the numerous first records for St. George and St. Paul. At least three of the SI records are new to North America.

The latter part of June was spent reconditioning the old fox sheds for the banding season. New window material was tacked on and Bob was able to punch a big hole in one the second day it was in. These sheds are used by us to weigh turnstones and store gear.

The village poisoned 188 Arctic Foxes this past winter but didn't get them all. We had our firing cord chewed up twice and the banding season hasn't started yet.

We are now batching on St. George instead of eating at the Company House. We find it allows us to regulate our own time instead of letting the BCF do it for us. Unfortunately, there isn't a bakery so we bake our own bread. Bob was the great pioneer and after three failures passed the kitchen to Max. The first batch went something like this:

"Gee Bob this bread dough sure tastes salty."

"I know but I put 2 tbsp. in just like the recipe said."

"I bet it was two tsp. instead."

"See here it says 2 tbsp. of .....SUGAR."

The weather during June was very good considering it is the Pribilof Islands. We had very little wind and NO rain. The tundra is very dry and some of the little lakes are getting low. There is still plenty of moisture in the ground and the spring flowers are blooming beautifully.

A rocket-net shot in late May, netted 113 Bar-tailed Godwits. Bob banded 100 of them and took sera from the rest. The birds had green streamers placed on their legs. This is an unusually large number of godwits for the Pribilof Islands. The number on St. George was estimated to be 300-400 birds.

HAWAIIAN
KING HOTEL
417 NOHONANI STREET
WAIKIKI, HAWAII

31 JULY, 1966

PAGO PAGO

JANE CHURCH
PACIFIC PROJECT
SMITHSONIAN INST.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560

DEAR JANE:

MY FRIEND, BOB JONES, WROTE ME SEVERAL MONTHS AGO ASKING IF I KNEW OF ANY JOBS THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE AFTER HIS GRADUATION THIS SUMMER. I SUGGESTED THAT HE WRITE YOU ABOUT THE EMPLOYMENT POSSIBILITIES ON THE PACIFIC PROJECT. APPARENTLY HE DID NOT REPRESENT HIMSELF TOO WELL IN HIS LETTER TO YOU. I AM VERY SORRY ABOUT THAT.

DUE TO POOR TRAINING OR POOR APPLICATION OF HIMSELF IN ENGLISH, BOB DOES NOT ALWAYS COME OFF TOO WELL COMMUNICATION-WISE. HE IS NONE-THE-LESS AN EXTREMELY LIKE-ABLE FELLOW AND IS PROBABLY PSYCHOLOGICALLY WELL SUITED TO WORKING WITH PEOPLE WITH WIDELY DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES. I DO NOT SEE WHY HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PERFORM GOOD GS-5 LEVEL WORK ON THIS PROJECT. AS FOR HIGHER LEVEL WORK - WE'D HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE. HE MAY BE SLIGHTLY DISILLUSIONED, AS I WAS, AT THE TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK EXPECTED FOR THE ACTUALLY INSUFFICIENT SALARY. BUT, ONE SIC SHOULD MAKE OR BREAK A PERSON ON THAT COUNT. I KNOW THAT BOB HAS LOGGED SOME SEA-TIME, BUT I'M NOT SURE HE FELT TOO CHIPPER. BETTER CHECK ON THAT — THAT SEEMS TO BE OUR BIGGEST LOSER OF EFFICIENCY.

I AM SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT MY 1-A CLASSIFICATION. I HAD COUNTED ON GOING PLACES WITH THE PROJECT. I DUMPED MY MOTORCYCLE FRIDAY WHEN I HIT A PIG NEAR AN OUTLYING SAMOAN VILLAGE. I LOST SOME TOENAILS AND A SIZEABLE PORTION OF MY SUNTAN, BUT I AM AFRAID I WILL HEAL SUFFICIENTLY TO BE 1-A AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER. A CHUNK OUT OF MY HEEL WILL KEEP ME HOBBLING FOR THE REST OF THE ISLAND STINTS, BUT I THINK I WILL BE ABLE TO DO THE BANDER AGAIN IN ABOUT A WEEK.

SEE YOU,

KEN

J.C.

July 29, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive, Apt 2
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

The Banding Office still has not sent us any of the return forms which we sent to be punched for IBM purposes six or eight months ago. This more than likely means that we will be unable to have any ADP work on returns. Our interisland book here is a real mess and we would like to convert to a card system such as yours. It seems a great shame to duplicate your work here but I don't see quite what else we can do.

Would you send us your cards again? I got them back to you very quickly the last time (I think it was within four or five days) and while I couldn't guarantee quite that fast a return this time I think I could get them back to you in eight or nine days total. We are going to see if we can Xerox yours and then paste them on cards. If this is impractical we will simply copy all of them.

I would like to be able to take the time after yours are copied to check them against all our various records here to see if your file is completely up to date. I know that you are lacking some of the Sand-Johnston birds because I added a few in for Chuck when he was here. Incidentally, what happened to the banding totals which he requested? I can get those if necessary right here and it wouldn't be too much difficulty. I don't want to do it if you have already done it however.

I had to talk to Chuck about his AOU paper early this week and he said that he never again wanted to give the first talk at a Congress. His only comment was that he had all the projection difficulties. He and Jan apparently are having a pleasant time.

From now on Mary is going to handle only schedules. Keenan and I will do the returns with Keenan doing probably 95 percent of them. Keenan and I also will keep the card file on the interisland birds.

Binion said the baby is adorable - we wouldn't have expected anything however with his good looking mother. I'm going up to Rock Run next weekend with Ted - wish you could be there also.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

July 28, 1966

Mr. Kenneth Balcomb
Pago Pago, American Samoa

Dear Ken:

All I can say is that I'm sorry! I can quite truthfully say that we did everything in our power here to keep this from happening. I talked with our Liaison Office when the induction notice came and was informed by them today that they had gone all the way to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and that even they would not be able to do anything to upset the decision of the Presidential Board of Appeal.

Your original papers read to report for induction on August 24 in Sacramento. I talked with the state head of the Selective Service System in Sacramento today and after checking your file he returned the call to say that we would be able to delay your induction date until September 1 if you wish to report in Sacramento. If you wish to report in Honolulu, I gather that you will stay on the ship and into the waiting arms!

I talked with Dr. Pyle after hearing all this and he was to have sent you a dispatch at Pago Pago. I am sending your induction notice to Dr. Pyle because I'm just afraid that if a plane were missed going to Samoa that you could possibly arrive in Honolulu with no papers.

The people here in Washington in the Manpower Division of the Selective Service System assured me today that they are also extremely sorry that this had happened. They also confirmed that there is no place else to go to ask for relief.

I hope that you have enjoyed the work - we have enjoyed having you and we all feel very keenly about your departure. At the same time, I'm glad the Armed Services are getting a good man! If you should, at the end of basic training, decide not to go on for OCS, and if you should wish to continue with the type of work which you have been doing (although in Army uniform) please write me a note. I will be glad to advise the correct people of your address, background and interest.

It just might be well to bear this in mind.

Regardless of where you go, however, our best wishes go with you.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.)
Pacific Project

c: Dr. Pyle
Files

P.C.

July 26, 1966

Mr. Max Thompson
Smithsonian Field Party
St. George Island
Pribilof Islands, Alaska

Dear Max:

I called to find out what I could do about the $40 down jackets and find that there's a way that we can get around their price. We will allow you and Bob the full amount on the jackets, but you will then have to turn them in to us as Government Property when you return to Washington. If you should choose to pay the difference for yourself (in other words you pay the balance after we allow the $15) you may then keep them. This should be for you and Bob to decide. Until we hear from you, we will just allow you the $15 in which case you may keep the jackets. If you wish to turn it in anyway, we will allow you the larger amount and you can give it back to us.

I feel enormous concern about one sentence in your letter - I have heard nothing about Dick Crossin's leaving. And you say "what a blow to lose him!" It would be a good idea to let me know, I think, if he has said that he is leaving. We certainly haven't anybody to replace him right now and you are right - one would not replace his personality anyway!

It was sad to see the Elys leave for England on Friday and realize that by the time they come back the running of the Project will be completely in someone else's hand. The reports from Honolulu on Dr. Pyle are uniformly excellent - everybody feels that he can work well with him, everybody seems to feel that he is an excellent boss. Binion just got back and was tremendously enthusiastic. Jeff Tordoff also was extremely enthusiastic. I had naturally been extremely concerned because I had asked Bob to come to the Project anyway and felt a little more responsibility than one would normally feel! I am delighted that everyone else is able to work with him as easily as I am.

Don't shoot off any more cannons without attaching them first- you know how mixed up I get whenever I try to reorder anything connected with the cannon net.

I almost forgot - we're writing down your snorkel, fins and swimming mask and will put them on your next voucher. I had felt that they must be for the Project but not having been certain felt that we could not run them through. The auditors are really quite tough and I prefer not to have people charge things to the Government for which they will have to pay five years from now! (this can happen on any item which the auditor will not accept - you end up paying for it once the audit has been made).

Best regards from us all,

Jane P. Church

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

THE SOUTHEASTERN CAMPUS

AREA CODE 812
TELEPHONE BUTLER 2-4327

WARDER PARK
JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA 47130

bc.

July 26, 1966

Mrs. Jane Church

Pacific Project, Division of Birds

Smithsonian Institution

Washington, D. C.. 20560

Dear Jane,

My pay for working the three days of June 8, 9, and 10, 1965 has arrived. Thank you.

The $65.20 check to complete my travel pay for the last week of March 1966, has not arrived, however (see the letter from Saverna dated June 27, 1966).

I am hoping that the airline strike will soon be settled so the 2.74 cubic feet of frozen Mus can be shipped to me.

In transferring Mus data to McBee Mammal cards, I find that I need 100 blank cards. Could you please send me this number of cards? As I remember, you have a good supply of blank McBee Mammal cards.

Jan? Yes? No?

Sincerely,

Ralph

Ralph D. Kirkpatrick
Asst. Professor of Zoology

RDK:bb

July 28, 1966

Dr. Ralph Kirkpatrick
Asst. Professor of Zoology
Indiana University
Jeffersonville, Indiana

Dear Ralph:

Thank you for your letter of July 26, 1966. Sorry you have been inconvenienced so many times! I called Fiscal dept. and as soon as the supervisor in charge comes back (which is Monday) your voucher will be processed. We will send your check pronto!

Sincerely,

Saverna Gennes
Pacific Project

f. c.

July 26, 1966

Mr. Ralph W. Schreiber
Pago Pago

Dear Ralph:

I hope that you are finding that you are able to keep up with all those older men on the SIC trip! It must be a horrible decision to have to make - or have to admit that you're lazy! I hope everything is coming out all right.

Your Operator's license and your ID card are enclosed - be sure to sign both of them. For whatever it is worth, we have not heard anything from your draft board.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

Dr. Pyle
Files

Enclosures
Government driver's license
ID Card - Smithsonian Institution

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

J.C.

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
July 26, 1966

This past week came and went with some arrivals and departures. The Elys arrived in the office bright and early Monday morning and spent the whole week with us. They, along with Dr. Humphrey and Pat Gould, departed for England and the IOC last Friday. It was touch and go for a while because of the airline strike but they were last seen leaving the Museum at 3 PM Friday afternoon and since we haven't heard from them we assume they got on their scheduled Pan American 6 PM flight on Friday evening, from Friendship Airport. Pat left from Dulles at 7 PM on Friday and our four representatives to the IOC would all arrive in London on Saturday morning at 7 AM. Dayle Husted came in on Monday also and was with us for two full days before returning home to Kansas. Because of the strike he also wasn't sure if he would make it all the way to Kansas. The last report was that he was taking a train home. Jeff and Binion arrived back with us yesterday. Binion stopped in Macon en route. We were all surprised when Binion showed up sporting a mustache. The overall opinion of the female members of the Project is that since it matches the color of the hair on his head so well he can keep it. We do believe that Binion is becoming the Project's own "Rhett Butler!" John Fitch left here on Thursday afternoon to return to Kansas and continue his work on bats and then be in Honolulu in time to join the August SIC. Bob Tuxson will leave DC this weekend and arrive in Honolulu the beginning of next week. After being with us since mid-June, our two newest Project members are elated at the prospect of those blue Pacific waters.

A card came in this morning from Pat Gould - - - - - Travel apparently is quite broadening during a strike. Pat managed to get no dinner until 10:30 at night, had no cigarettes, and sat next to a crying child all night. He also reports that he's confused by London, but then everybody is. The main difficulty there is to remember not to look the wrong way when crossing the street - you only have to do that one time.

We have a new young lady working for us - Francina Brown - who is from the Neighborhood Youth Corps and will be here until about the first of September. Francina comes in for four days a week and is helping with our ADP work and also with the orange streamers. We are glad to have her here.

We have a new Red-footed Boobie retrap - 777-55422, banded as a Nestling on Enderbury on 10-02-65. It was captured aboard a ship off Namumea Island, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, on 07-12-66. The band was read and the bird released in excellent condition.

We are still snowed under with banding returns - we haven't dared to count to see how many were turned in during the past month but it was a staggering number. The Monthly Field Report which came in from Honolulu listed 227,118 birds banded during June. The interisland movements have been fascinating - a Ruddy Turnstone from St. George collected on Lisianski. We have over 400 interisland birds during this one month. We attach the interisland movements page of the June Monthly Field Summary just to let everybody see for himself what we're turning up.

We had a letter in from Max this week - the Turnstones are coming in. He and Bob are batching it and therefore don't have to get to meals on time anymore. It's cold up there and it's hot here - there should be someplace in mid-continent where the northern air and the southern air could meet and that would be the place to move to.

Tops have hatched very little.
Lost 3 birds & killed 2 foxes (an oystercatcher)

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

25 July 1966

POBSP First

Gulf a return on 652-49448 &
63-192736. Have hundred over
130 Rory Finches & about 100
Snow Buntings, 25 Rock Sandpipers

Dear Jane:

Just a one-page letter to let you know that we are still alive. We are nearly ready to make the first rocket-net set. There were 200 birds on East this morning and as soon as the flock becomes more cohesive we will put out the net. I expect to fire by the 27th at the latest. We have already banded 2 which I caught in a mist net. You wouldn't believe what we caught in a mist net we left out all night. I believe it is the most wierd thing that has happened here yet. Bob ran the nets at 0530 and there was a Fork-tailed Petrel in the net. Apparently had come in shore during the night.

Our work on the turnstones has been somewhat delayed by the weather. It is hard to believe but we have had 5 straight days of sunshine andno wind. This is hardly conducive to migration. However, we did see a total of 395 turnstones this morning. They are running about 3% banded as near as we can tell. I saw one yesterday at the dock with a band on each leg. That means one of three things: 1) I was drunk last year when I banded, 2) The bird was rebanded last year with a new band due to wear, 3) The Japanese banded one of our birds with a new band. I ran off two copies of my last year's turnstone report and got two pages transposed. Bob was reading it and brought it to my attention. It read like this, " Mr. Vincent Hoeman in 1964 and Mr. Robert DeLong in 1965, both biologists with the POBSP were left on two of the killing fields to rot." We had a good laught out of that one.

As soon as the Pribilof arrives on August 10, we will send out a shipment of bird skins to you air freight collect. This should be the last boat before the Pribilof comes in August. We seem to be fairly well set up now. We have some supplies coming in from Sears. It is easier to order from there by catalog number that worry about having you or Doug try and interpret our wants. We might get another cannon-net ha.

I guess we haven't really seen any good birds here yet this summer. I did see an Arctic Loon which isn't common. The Fork-tailedPetrel is the first specimen from St. George although there are numerous sight records from the islands. Oh yes, Bob saw our first Slender-billed Shearwater off-shore yesterday while out in the boat. He caught a 4' 60# halibut.

We still haven't heard from the Kelez yet. I hear Bob French on the radio about every night and will give him a call some night and see if we can find out anything about the September cruise. I did hear him say that they had taken on another crew member which doesn't sound good.

Well mom I am running out of paper. Just wanted to let you know that Bob and I are still kicking. Regards to Herb.

Son (Mark Thompson)

B.C.

July 22, 1966

Mr. Robert Fleet
Box 4, Route 1
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Bob:

I have gone over now in some detail the masses of data you have sent in during the last week or so. I am most impressed, you have clearly done a lot of work. This whole business of growth, development, incubation periods and so on, for various species of birds in the Central Pacific is going to become enormously useful ultimately in the analysis of many of the data we have collected during the past three years of the Pacific Ocean Biological Survey Program. This is going to be particularly so when it comes to attempting to reconstruct reproductive cycles of various species on islands where we have only been able to visit two or three times a year for only a few days at a time.

In order to make these data more useful I think you would be well advised to prepare during the course of your detailed data analysis a brief working summary for each species which would permit a field man to extrapolate easily from data collected during a brief period on a given island. It would also be useful for you to prepare simple, careful, concise instructions as to what counts should be made and what measurements made of young birds of each species in order to obtain reasonable extrapolations about the duration of the breeding cycle of that species on a given island at a given time or season.

In order to demonstrate the usefulness of this approach I think it would be highly desirable for you to analyze breeding cycles of one species throughout its distribution in our Central Pacific area of interest. These data for the species you select should be worked up on a year-to-year basis rather than averaged over the period of three years of observation. The data for the Southern Islands very likely for certain species anyway, does not fall out in an annual pattern, so annual averages cannot be used. If you have any questions about this particular application of your work drop me a line. I will be back in Washington on the 13th or 14th of August and will be able to spend considerably

more time looking at and working with the data you are organizing.

Don't forget that when you summer's work is completed, it should be possible for us to further refine our field data collecting techniques in order to learn more about the biology of each of the species. I will leave it up to you to decide how this can be most easily and most effectively accomplished in terms of descriptions, summaries, and instructions to field men.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing another mountain of data and written material from you when I return from England.

Best regards,

Philip S. Humphrey
Chairman
Department of Vertebrate Zoology

bc: J. Church
Files

f.c.

22 July 1966

Capt. Richard W. Gregg, Master
U.S.N.S. SHEARWATER
Pago Pago, Samoa 96920

Dear Capt. Gregg:

By now you've had your first experience with one of our SIC trips, and I hope everything has gone all right. We'll be anxious to hear about it.

The problem of installing davits for the Boston Whaler is now in John Bushman's hands. MSTS M&R here in Honolulu, wants a design clearance from COMSTSPAC, and John is seeing what he can do about that. He also found some davits available there, and is shipping them over here on one of the YAG's leaving the west coast this week. Hopefully this will cut the cost a lot. He is still very reluctant to pay anything like $10,000 for the job, and if he can't get the cost reduced, he would prefer to skip it altogether and risk buying several Whalers if necessary. For my general information, is it totally impractical to handle the Whaler with gear presently on the SHEARWATER? Chances of getting a Whaler for the next trip aren't very bright, but if it comes through, and if we get approval from John, I'll have arrangements made as far as I can by the time you arrive.

I am enclosing a first draft itinerary for the next SIC trip, and have also sent a copy to Dick Crossin. It is a rather tight schedule because of the need to squeeze in another trip before Christmas. I hope you and Dick can go over it and can send me your suggestions and comments. I will have to submit the itinerary to John Bushman early in August, although the orders will have the usual latitude for modification enroute.

John heard recently that the SHEARWATER is scheduled for some sort of "damage control exercise" (?) when she returns to Honolulu, and that it would mean a delay in departure of about two days beyond our target of September 6. He is trying to track this down, and will object strenuously to any delay because of the short time before dark moon (Sept. 14), and the need to squeeze in two trips before Christmas.

Good luck on the second half.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Pyle
Field Director

July 21, 1966

Mr. Richard D. Chandler
Pango Pango

Dear Rick:

You simply must write to us to tell us what to do with your checks which are here. They're piling up, and they were returned from your bank saying that there was no account there. We have at least three here, and I don't like to have the responsibility of having them here in the office. Please send us the name of your bank and your account number so that we can get things going in the right direction.

I hope that the work is proving interesting to you--you are at least missing some extremely hot weather back in Washington!

Best regards,

Church

July 21, 1966

Mr. Douglas Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive, Apt. 2
Honolulu, Hawaii,

Dear Doug:

I have had so many letters from you recently that I don't see how you are finding time to do anything except write!

Jan said to tell you that he could take approximately one hundred specimens which are tropic bird size. By all means do not send anything until the airlines strike is over as nobody can guarantee delivery at this time. Try to remember that Jan and I like to go away on week-ends also and not to send them here to reach here on Thursday or Friday. I had to wait here with him when we were going to the eastern shore a few weeks ago to receive a shipment from you or Dick Merrill, I have forgotten which.

There is no reason under the sun for you to take days of leave if you did not actually use it. Just let it pile up, and at the end of the year you'll have to lose it. Too bad--but that is life as we live it in the Pacific Project.

I still haven't done anything about the alcohol--isn't there some way that you can get it through VCF? Would you give it a try and then let me know if I still have to get it from here. If you can find a source in Honolulu which already has a permit for importing it, it would make things much easier all around, and it would probably be less expensive.

Best regards,

Church

b.c.

July 20, 1966

Mr. Brian A. Harrington
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Brian:

Many thanks for the letter concerning all the things which have not been sent to Sand Island. We sent them the April Report yesterday and also the 1963 and 1964 banding summary sheets (the ones listing birds banded by species) and they should be able to get along better now with their records! We are hoping that you will make it to the West Coast for the trip back out to Honolulu. The Elys finally got here, Dayle finally made it in and was told that there is no chance of a plane out to Kansas before next Monday (this is Tuesday or Wednesday). We still have heard nothing from your draft board but at least you are still with us.

Best regards,

Church

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

f.c.

July 20, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program,Room 601W

Dear Jane:

Your note about banding record errors brings up something that is my biggest problem ---- how to get them out of the records before the go back to D.C. In most cases I'm only partly successful. Normally what I do is check the records out for form and completeness. Then, if time permits, I go through them band by band and check original data. If I'm rushed as I was with the SIC 13 records then I don't check the original info as thoroughly. In the case of the SIC 13 records only a few of the returns were written up when the trip returned and these were done wrong and had to be reworked. In their master banding book someone had written the original info beside the bands and I used this in making the return sheets up - assuming that whoever had written the notations had looked them up correctly. This it seems, was a mistake. As it was I had to devoted about five or so evenings at home, plus part of a weekend, in order to get the returns done at the same time that trip preparations and a bunch of other things were going on.

I suppose there isn't any way around checking each and every band for myself because you can't seem to rely on what someone else has scribbled down here and there. What we plan to do from now on is try to check records as soon as a trip returns and point out where errors have occurred before the next trip leaves. The only problem being many trips return with records far from completion.

The green memo books are also presenting more and more of a problem because of either sloppiness or incompleteness. We have issued a memo on the format to be followed in these books in an effort to alleviate some of the confusion and errors that have occurred in the past. The memo books from SIC 13 were next to worthless because they omitted such a large number of things that it was impossible to trace down a number of the obvious mistakes (even ones dealing with original bandings). This was true especially in relation to the many recoveries made by the trip -- when there was a notation in a book there was usually no band... in a number of instances where there were bands there was positively no mention of it anywhere. (as I found after 2½ frustrating hours of rooting and swearing).

The one thing that worries me the most is the increasingly large number of birds that are being reported as one species that were originally reported as being another species. In several instances of this I have sent a letter directly back to the bander and recieved an answer stating that no birds of the original species had been handled so the band must be as reported. I don't know how in the world we are going to resolve errors like this. All I am doing is keeping a record of these birds by writing on the interisland card or the banding card. Trips are also returning with high numbers of misread band numbers (ones that are obviously misread and ones that don't match anything.) An example of this can be found in the SIC 13 master banding book on McKean Returns for 30 April 1966 8 complete numbers are given for Audubon's Shearwaters and three of them are obviously misread. There were a number of other pages with up to three misread numbers on them. For Sic 13 there were at least 15 misread numbers and 4 birds that were reported as being a different species from the

I have recently finished extracting all of the return data from the green memo books for the ADT system, if and when it is used. All green books in my possession will be sent to you in the very near future. I have gone through all of the books and made a label for the front of each giving the islands, SIC # and the inclusive banding dates so that the books can be more readily located and used. All future trips will be written up for the ADP as soon as possible and the green boosk will be sent directly on to you.

Could I have all of the remaining green memo books that are available in D.C. I would also like to have the return records for such places as Kure and Sand-Johnston so that these can be run through for ADP extraction as well. The extraction doesn't take a great deal of time - I went through almost 200 memo books in the course of a week while doing other things. Any books that are sent out will be run through and returned within afew weeks time. With Dick Merrill here helping me I now have sufficient time to handle such things as this. When here alone almost 20 or more hours each week were burned up in travelling from here to there for this and that and another 5-6 were spent in other inane tasks such as wrapping packages for island stations, etc. I'm getting gobs done now with him here to help out.

There is one item of supplies we will be needing for the next SIC trip. Could you send out about 24 more of the headlites (Justrite) The trip to Palmyra and a whole gang of side trips here and there (plus new personnel coming in) has almost exhausted my supply of new ones.

Guess that about covers things for the time being. I am now busily typing up revisions for the band listing and will have them finished by the end of this week or beginning of next week. I'll send them off to you as soon as they are finished so that they can be back here and ready for issue by the time the SIC trip returns to Honolulu.

Regards,

Doug

Dear Jane.

Thanks you very much for taking care of my ID and drivers license for me. This will come in handy for me in many ways - I can't even cash a check out here without some form of identification.

Well Phil Shelton and I are leaving for Sand Johnson tommorrow morning at 0800. We and I get along well and I think we should make a good team. We will do our best to get an excellent job done.

I suppose you heard about Dick Crossin breaking Tony Hubers banding record of 4300 boobies in one night - he banded 4500. Then two nights later Ken Balcomb broke this record with 4800. Needless to say the banding was fabulous on the leewards trip. The crew banded a total of 102,000 birds on the trip.

Well, I think I'd better start sending some money home to atlanta from now on. I don't want to blow all my dough out here. If you could, I wish you would have the fiscal dept. send my paychecks to my account in atlanta from now on. Of course my expence money should continually be sent to my account or myself in Honolulu. My account is with the First National Bank of Atlanta

account of Mr. Frank H. Smith Jr.
1394 Nalley Circle
Decatur Georgia
Acct. No. 84-352-52-5

F.C.

July 19, 1966

Dr. R. L. Pyle
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Bob:

We have been advised that Ken Balcomb is 1-A now, and this more than likely means he will be immediately drafted. I wrote a letter to his draft board saying that he would be out of the country until August 26, but I feel that induction notice will probably be waiting for him when he gets off that ship.

The extra copy of this letter is for you to send along to Dick Crossin if you so wish. I know that Dick is counting on coming back to Washington (via Duluth and the AOU meeting), and he probably will wish to reassign work on the second half of the SIC trip as we will have to count on Balcomb's not being with us much longer. There is a possibility that we might be able to send in more information on Balcomb which the draft board might reconsider. I think, however, that little or nothing can be done.

Since this is also of interest to Dick, I will report in this same letter that we are still negotiating for the Boston whaler from a firm in San Francisco. This firm is accustomed to shipping to the Pacific, and the salesman is now looking into boat schedules out of San Francisco to see 1) if he can get the boat and 2) if he can locate a Currituck Boston whaler! He has one coming in about August 10 or 11, but if that should be delayed, there would be no way of getting it out in time for the SIC trip. Should we go ahead with the boat purchase even if they can't guarantee delivery before August 25?

Best regards,

Church

Just realised these two sheets are different sizes! New fad!

July 19, 1966

Dear Jane:

We're having our share of pelikea with the airlines. The Elys and Dayle finally got off Thursday as you know. Brian Harrington was trying to leave this weekend for Tacoma and was at the airport Sunday with a Smithsonian check trying to get on either PanAm or Canadian Pacific. He was trying to get a ticket from PanAm, but the clerk was uncertain about the check and called me at home to make sure I was authorizing this young fellow to buy a ticket for 100+ dollars. I assured him I certainly was. But he seemed suspicious about the whole thing, and sure enough Brian called a few minutes later saying they had decided they couldn't accept the check unless I came out to the airport with credentials. I phoned back to PanAm and after a long discussion finally convinced them to accept it, and gave them my personal bank account number to back it up. It later developed that he couldn't get on the Seattle flight, so they returned the check, which by now had PanAm stamped on it and was no longer useful anywhere else. Brian got on a waiting list for a Canadian Pacific flight and apparently got on the plane all right that evening. But in so doing he was obliged to use his personal check to Canadian Pac. and we had to send a covering check to his bank in Rhode Island. The PanAm check was destroyed. All this, because one doesn't know these days who will be the carrier until the plane is boarded. PanAm now is only honoring reservations made well before the strike--everyone else is on standby. Doug reported "about 1500" people at the airport last night trying to get on three planes. One of the 1500 was Binion, whose flight was postponed three hours to 2:55 am departure, thus ruining his connections on Delta to Georgia. Binion was in a perfect snit about it, but as far as we know he did get off at 2:55. You'll probably hear from him before we do.

Anything new on the Whaler? We're sure hoping the dealer in San Francisco was able to deliver. If not, and if nothing could be arranged through Tacoma or Portland for one of the YAG's, then we had better take steps to order one for the following cruise at least, either through McWayne here or through your man in San Francisco. The latter would probably be better.

Now, with respect to Fitch and Tuxson. It is now definitely planned that they will both go on the SIC 15 cruise departing here about September 6. Also, one will (hopefully, airline strike permitting) accompany Brian Harrington on the French Frigate Survey departing here August 11. From my meagre information on these fellows, I would pick Fitch for this because of his broader field experience which could be of help to Brian. I would then like to send Tuxson to another island station about the same time for field experience prior to the SIC cruise. Thus, if draft boards and Washington commitments permit, both should come out here about August 1 or as soon thereafter as possible.

Meanwhile, can you send us next-of-kin data for Fitch and Tuxson as soon as possible so that we can get orders and request letters under way. Also,

this information and birth date, etc., should go to John as backup for orders if you haven't already sent it.

We recently received from you copies of final security clearances for Balcomb and Shelton, and I assume all who joined the project earlier have final clearances. However, I don't know about the newer people. Could you let me know who does not yet have final clearance, and who has interim clearance? This of course affects assignments of newer people like Tuxson to places like Johnston.

Tordoff's plane reservation on United was "postponed" officially to the 22nd, but there seems hardly any doubt that it won't be able to go then either. He will then go on standby, and will be aiming to get to D.C. early the following week. He went on a banding trip to the Marine Base one night last week, and I've told him he needn't lose a day of leave for that day if he can make proper arrangements with you when he is in D.C.

With respect to the long lists of birds recovered from the island of original banding, Doug says he has already instituted changes along the line you suggested. He is now planning to use the pink sheet only for recoveries of foreign bands, I believe.

On the matter of Dick Crossin giving a paper at the AOU, I don't see how he can prepare anything new while at sea. Anything he might put together hastily might do him more harm than good if he tried to present it. I don't believe this came up until after the SIC cruise departed, so Dick doesn't yet know anything about it unless Chuck has written him a personal letter. Even that he wouldn't get until reaching Pago, along with your letter. I am counting on a lot of help from him during the week of August 29 preparing for SIC 15, which will be the first in recent times that won't have his leadership. However he could leave here over the weekend to be in Duluth for the meetings. Another complication is a letter from Max Thompson indicating there was some discussion with Chuck about Dick's flying to Adak to take a BCF cruise into Seattle "in early September" if Max and Bob do not finish in time to take it. But this is out, unless Dick has a strong preference for it, because his two months "rest" should be a complete break and not spent half at sea. I'll try to get Dick to send his comments on all this before leaving Pago.

No changes or additions yet to the Personnel Location sheet of July 15th. The SURVEYOR that Woodward will take is a Coast & Geodetic Survey ship, in case this isn't clear on the sheet.

Think this is all for now. Please rush the next-of-kin data for Fitch & Tuxson.

We're anxious to hear about Anne, and any other doings since your big move - John and Dick are going to Kauai this weekend. The Pyles have leased a permanent house at 61 Wilikoki Place - delightful street name, and only 3 houses from the beach. Alas, no swimming pool, but the rent is commensurately lower than for our present place.

Bob

F.C.

July 19, 1966

Mr. Fred C. Sibley
Ojai, California

Dear Fred:

Chuck and Jan Ely got in today after considerable delay because of the airlines strike. Chuck said that he had talked to you before about the gull paper and when Jan Reese comes back from his leave tomorrow, he will check all the specimens for you. I am sorry for the slight delay, but of course I had to wait to find out what arrangements had been made about papers.

Best regards,

Church

PSH

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST

July 18, 1966

We seem to have people coming and going at very odd times this week - the Elys left Honolulu last Thursday on separate planes, with one cat, one bird, and one child divided equally or unequally between them. They had to spend 24 hours waiting in San Francisco and then got to Dallas where there was nothing available for them to get to Oklahoma City so they rented a car and drove there. Fortunately they had had reservations on American Airlines from there into Washington on Sunday and they got in yesterday afternoon with a minimum of confusion.

Dayle Husted, who had also been on standby, is here but we have yet to figure out how he got here. We know that his baggage is lost, he's been on a train, he's been on a plane, and he's here! He says he's going out to buy some new clothes anyway. A letter from Binion came in this morning saying that he would be back next Monday. He's going to have quite a shock when he sees where he's moved to - it's not good English but the office arrangement is better than it was before.

Mary Johnson came back in today from her 2-weeks of vacation - from her description of the trip it will take her a week to catch up on her rest here. Anne is considering going on leave this week but more on that later. Pat, Dr. and Mrs. Ely, and Dr. Humphrey all have reservations on Pan Am for London Friday night out of Dulles.

We got some mail from Alaska today. A letter from Bob DeLong reminds me that we are now going to start sending people's payroll stubs directly to them. We have been accumulating them here but nobody that way ever knows how much leave he has, how much money is going into the bank, etc. We will send all the ones in the Pacific to Box 8095 and suggest that the Honolulu Office keep a mail file for each man as we have previously done here. This will be much more sensible than leaving them here for such long times.

A letter came in today from Brian Harrington from Honolulu - he's also depending on the lack of an airlines strike to get to the west coast and take one of the ships back out to Honolulu on the 20th or 22nd. Let's hope he makes it.

Droppings July 18, 1966

Letter from Doug today concerns the banded St. George Turnstone which was collected on Lisianski on 18 June. The band number is 712-08013 and it was banded on St. George as an immature 7 August 1965. Incidentally, it would probably be advisable to let Doug know any time we collect an unusual bird. This bird apparently was not reported on a McBee card, on a recovery form or any place else except in men's field notes and in the trip report. We had read those here and Dr. Humphrey noticed this and asked for the banding data for his report to the IOC next week. It would have slipped right by us all if he had not noticed it.

We have a new employee at the BCF Lab in Honolulu - Mrs. Pauline Hugh. Mrs. Hugh worked as a Medical Technician in Chicago before coming to Honolulu. She is our only employee with a good reading, speaking, and understanding knowledge of Chinese. We got the bad news this morning that Ken Balcomb is classified 1A and I don't think that there's anything more that we can do about this. This appeal (the one which we made) was voted down 3-0 by the President's Appeal Board, not any local or state board. Any future planning should consider this. However, in the course of checking to find out if there was anything further that we here at the Smithsonian could do about this, I found out that Bob DeLong had been classified 2A on May 31. I'm sure this won't make Ken feel any better but at least we will no longer have to figure out how to get Bob off of the Pribilofs in case he should be drafted. Bob, did you know anything about this? We had nothing in our records here at all after February 8 and I'd been wondering what had happened on it. Everybody has written in commiserating with us about the heat - every word of sympathy was well deserved as it was hotter and laster longer than most of us can remember. Right now we're having lovely weather, however, although it still is quite warm.

If any of you within the United States (not Honolulu or Alaska) wish to call in here collect, would you please send the call through NAtional 8-1810? In this way, the operator that asks you will ask you if you will wait for a minute, she will ask for your number, she will then get the Federal Telecommunication (10cents for three minutes or something like that) Line, and call you back at your number. This should save us a fair amount of money if you can just remember to do it. Unfortunately, most of the collect calls are from Honolulu and this does not help us at all with them.

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

bc

July 16, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program, Room 601W
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Jane:

We are starting to get into a pinch here for freezer space. At the present time I am almost out of freezer space with more than 200 specimens on hand. The Leewards trip collected several large taxonomic series and didn't have time to do any work on them before the departure of the SIC. This evening I was supposed to receive a freezer chest full of rat specimens from Kure Island but just learned that the plane is grounded on Midway with a faulty engine. The rats will probably come in tomorrow sometime (another Sunday ruined).

Would you please ask Jan to check and see how many specimens he can accomodate back in D.C. I would like to send as many as possible out of here - especially the taxonomic series because Chuck wants these (or will want them when he gets back from England). The freezer full of rats will also be sent to D.C. for autopsy since there is no one here at the present time who knows how to conduct one. Please let me know how many you can take back there.

As soon as the airline strike breaks I'll send them to you via Pan American. I'm afraid to send anything at the present time because they will not confirm (and apparently cannot) connecting flights at the present time. I'd be afraid the shipments would end up sitting somewhere until they thawed. I'll send a wire when the specimens are shipped.

I hadn't given the vacation time much thought because I didn't get much of a vacation when the baby was born. Most of the time was spent in rewriting the bird banding section of the manual in addition to a lot of running around town and a lot of other paperwork. I don't thinnk there was one day in which I didn't get at least 7 hours of work in.* I'll see Dr. Pyle on Monday or Tuesday and charge off about 10 days since I'll lose it anyhow.

Please tell Anne that the alcohol we got before had to be cleared through the Treasury Department. It is the stuff you can drink (if you have enough nerve) whatever that is.

Regards,

Doug

* counting Sat + Sundays, too.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

15 July 1966

Dear Jane:

We have certainly had the ships by this year. Of course we did go 20 days without mail. We had a ship last week and another will be here tomorrow. They are all research vessels working on fish.

We received the freezer and supplies. Many thanks. I think we will survive now for the rest of the summer without bothering you for anything else.

In regards to the questionable items on the expense account. The snorkel, fins and swimming mask are in Honolulu and are Pacific Project material used for collection fish, mollusks and someother classified items. They were not bought for pleasure nor did I retain them. As for the down jacket, I really don't know what to tell you about it. I will say that if you have ever worked in temperatures hovering around the 40° mark with 30-40 knot winds, the down jacket feels awful good. If you will check with our new staff meteorologist I think you will find that the chill factor at that temperature and wind is around 0° on a calm day. Also it will be winter before we leave Alaska. Both years the snow was flying when we departed Anchorage. Whatever you decide to pay me will be fine with me. I will say that Bob is turning in a receipt for an identical jacket (neither of us knew the other was buying one). His should be definitely paid in full as it was winter when he arrived in May.

Bob and I are going to continue to batch as it is so convenient not to have to meet a schedule. Arrangements have already been made to pay our food bill every 2 weeks and I plan on leaving it that way since that is already setup.

The migration has started now. The first Ruddies (per wire to PHS) arrived on July 12. We had 15 yesterday and only 5 this morning
25 — but a check this evening will be made. We saw one banded one today. Please send me the number of the one that Dick collected on Lisianski. He is certainly to be congratulated on his most successful trip to the Leewards. What a blow to loose him!!! He is not only a fantastic field leader but also a tremendous personality.

Well Jane, I must close now. Sorry to hear about the heat. Wish you could send us some. Best regards for now.

Max

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

July 15, 1966 B.C.

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Smithsonian Institution
Pacific Program, Room 601W

Dear Jane:

Yesterday Dr. Pyle called and asked me if I knew anything about the turnstone from Alaska that was collected on Lisianski. Since I had just finished going over all of of the Lisianski records I told him there wasn't any such animal. I then went back over all of the trip banding reports and checked the McBeee cards (of which there were 25). Nowhere in any of the records that were given to me was even the slightest hint that a bird from Alaska had been blasted on Lisianski.

No one from the trip even bothered to tell me that an Alaskan bird had been collected which didn't help matters any. I seldom get the chance to read through field notes and see trip reports even less often so I was completely in the dark about the bird. Since I couldn't find any paperwork anywhere on the bird I told him there must be a mistake....all I could find were a couple of other turnstone bands that were reported here and there in the records that are being readied for shipment to D.C.

Soooooooo, this afternoon Linda called and gave me your last telegram and I got busy again. I cross-checked every file system in the place, checked their original green memo books, checked the master banding book, checked the return sheets and the recovery forms and then looked at 26 completely blank McBee cards for the specimens that were collected. Finally, I had to do the one thing I didn't want to do and that was dig into the bulging freezer. After about 30 minutes of digging and rooting around Merrill and I managed to find the banded bird.

Just called Dr. Pyle and gave him all of the info on the bird (4 p.m.)

712: 08013 (specimen # USNM 6426) banded in the Garbage Dump, St. George Is. as an immature 07 August 1965. Collected on Lisianski Island 18 June 1966 from among a flock of 82 birds on a coral outcropping along the edge of the reef. The bird was in nearly full plumage.

Sorry about the difficulty we had in finding this number. It gets a little difficult trying to find such things when the field people don't make any notations anywhere and then don't say anything about it. Oh well, I've been screaming about keeping better records so this will give me a little bit of ammunition to use the next time I harangue about record keeping.

Regards,
Doug

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
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July 15, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program, Room 601W
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C.

Dear Jane:

I just checked out all of your prices and find to my surprise that most are considerably lower than the ones you have been paying. I called the people who handle these things and was told that they charge a nominal 22¢ per pound to bring these items into Honolulu via air freight and will deliver in about 14 days. The prices quoted are as follows: (also the place is about 6 blocks away from the warehouse).

	Your Price	Honolulu Price
Yale Needles, 1½", 21 Ga	$37.35 per 1000	$37.35 per 1000
810S Syringes, 10cc	$8 per 100 in lots of 1000	$7.20 per 100 in lots of 1000
Vacutainers, 10cc	$19.80 per 240 (or $99.00 per 1200)	$17.46 per 240 (or $87.33 per 1200)
Vacutainer needles	$64.00 per 1000	$67.50 per 1000
Dispopettes	$3.87 per gross in lots of 10 gross	$3.17 per gross in lots of 10 gross.

As you can see the prices on everything but the vacutainer needles are either the same or considerably below those you have been paying. In view of this could you please arrange for the purchase order to be sent out here to the following address:

Van Waters and Rogers, Inc.
313 Kamakee Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 Phone: 504-431

The Van Waters and Rogers sales representative I have been dealing with is Mr. Richard Ekimoto. I might add that in my previous dealings with this company we have had excellant service and cooperation.

Glad to hear the gear ordered is either ordered or on the way. They keep accelerating things out here so that you can't plan very long ahead. Everytime I turn around we are running out of something else.

I have great piles of banding records here and had been counting on sending them back with Dayle Husted but he slipped away from me. Some of these records came through here in real rotten shape (incomplete and done wrong) so I have been busily tinkering with them to get them in as good order as possible before saddling you folks with them. The only thing I am now having any problems with is the SIC trip that Max went on — there are several strings that were really fouled up and several strings were apparently completely lost. I have been through the books several times and found a few of the

problem strings. The thing that really burned me about the records for the trip was the condition in which they brought back their recoveries. When there were bands there was no data in the books to support them. When there was data in the books there was (usually) no band to be found. I still have about 15 of the recoveries from this trip and have now reached the point in checking where it looks like nothing can be done about them.

Generally, the records coming in are in pretty fair shape. I had to search for several days before finding any mistakes on the ones Crossin brought back from the Leewards .....but I found several by being a Nit-picker.

All of these records that are now on hand will be sent out to you via Registered Mail within the next day or two. These include everything up through Binion's French Frigate Shoals records and all island stations through the 30th of June.

Let me know about the misadventured of 652-27001 and colleagues if you learn any more about them.

A while back I turned in a Bulwer's Petrel band from Manana Island that was badly worn (an old Biological Survey Band). When something comes back to the office from the F&W office could I please get any info on it? I'm curious as to who banded it and when.

Many thanks for the prompt action on the gear shipment. Things seem to be going pretty well out here right now. Chuck and Jan departed yesterday (on different planes) after standing around on space available for a few hours. Dick Merrill is doing a great job in the warehouse (he has everything put away neatly and I can't find a thing.) For the first time since coming out here last June I have been able to sit down and sink my teeth into the great piles of back-log paperwork. I am now working on the up-dating of the inventory and supplu listings which I just never seemed to have time to work on before. This should be finished up and in the mail to you within a week's time. I'm also busily extracting data from the little green books and putting it on big log forms for possible use when they get around to putting things on an ADP system. Thusfar, I have about 1500 Blue-faced Boobies logged up and am starting to make some dents on the great piles of memo books that are stacked here and there. As soon as I finish with the memo books I'll bundle them up and send them all back to D.C. for filing. In the near future I would like to have all of the rest of the memo books in D.C. sent out here to be worked over. After that books will be run through shortly after a trip arrives and then will be sent directly to D.C. for future reference.

Within the next several weeks I'll also have a pack of sheets to be xeroxed for the species listings. I'm now about 180,000 bands behind on the listing. As soon as these are finished I'll send them to you so that they can be back and issued for the next SIC trip. I don't want to get too far behind on the listings or we'll be back where we started with tons of unfinished returns coming in off of each trip.

Hope everything is going well back in D.C. and that the heat isn't bothering you too much. It is a steady 83-86 degrees out here day in day out. They use the exact same weather forecast for weeks at a time out here without hardly changing a word.

Regards,

Doug

f. c.

c: Dr. Pyle
Files

July 14, 1966

Mr. Richard Crossin
Pago Pago, American Samoa

Dear Dick:

Please be our guest at the AOU Meeting in Duluth on your way back to wherever you are coming back to! It had been summarily decided that you ought to give a paper on finches at the meeting until some wise guy (Ely? Pyle?) pointed out that such a paper had already been given at a Cooper Meeting! This apparently cannot be done over again very well because somebody who might have been at the Cooper Meeting could conceivably be at the AOU Meeting! I think that there were tremendous days in the past when communications and travel were more difficult - I know that the politicians, at least, were able to give the same speech in every county in the state.

I think that either Bob or Chuck has written to you about giving a paper at the AOU meeting on a subject other than Laysan Finches. I understand that we will somehow get it cleared (after you somehow get it written) between August 26 and September 5. Please pick a subject about which there could be no possible difficulty.

We are in about the 16th straight day of 95%+ - I find it extremely easy to stay on here working overtime because we are so beautifully air conditioned. Everybody would welcome a rip-roaring thunderstorm.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

file f.c.

July 14, 1966

Mr. C. D. Hackman
1904 Kaioo Drive, Apt 2
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Doug:

You have never reported if and when you went on leave. There are Form 71s in the Honolulu office. Please fill out the dates and the time on which you took leave. Be sure to sign the form too!

Either Dr. Pyle or I can approve the leave. If you do take any in the future, would you please fill one out and send it back to us? It causes a lot of trouble when they have to readjust timeslips several months after leave has been taken.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

bc: Dr. Pyle

TO REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE
PLEASE TELEPHONE 296-6200

1709 L St. N.W. Washington D.C. Phone 296-6200

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ELY VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION WASHINGTONDC

COULD WE ADAPT YOUR OXFORD PACIFIC PAPER TO ARTICLE
NEW SCIENTIST ISSUE 28 JULY QUERY IF SO WOULD WELCOME
TEXT AND PICTURES SOONEST ALSO YOUR ARRIVAL AND
ADDRESS IN ENGLAND STOP MEANWHILE PLEASE SAY YES OR
NO REGARDS

CALDER NEWSCIENT LONDON

cations Inc. 1709 L St. N.W. Washington D.C. Phone 296-6200

July 14, 1966

Change to 51 on government rates

Regret unable contact Ely. No text or pictures available here. Ely arriving New College Oxford July 24.

Church Smithsonian

John Nail
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Sender's Name

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ELY ARRIVING NEW COLLEGE OXFORD JULY 24

CHURCH SMITHSONIAN

VOUCHER $2.02 NR WAA078 WILL BE MAILED IN TO JOHN NAIL

International Telegram Via ITT

This message received by telephone and forwarded subject to the rules and regulations set forth in the Company's Tariff Book on file with the Federal Communications Commission

7/15/66

1904

~~Ryte~~ Hackman Kaioo Honolulu

Recheck Lisianski specimens. Trip report and field notes record St. George Tunstone collected June

Church Smithsonian

See 7-15

Map Thompson
St Geo. also to
Cook Inlet for 7 Turns
& Intl. race
Lands.

PS 12

(Navy Com Sta Wh Telex) F.C.

Pl Cable
~~Send~~ band numbers

Thompson Smithsonian St. George
Alaska

Cable band numbers

Humphrey Smithsonian

Sent thru Army channels
(thru Carmen Turner) 7-14-66

WESTERN UNION
TELEX SERVICE

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1966 JUL 14 AM 8 51

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TELTEX-THIS MESSAGE
RECEIVED DIRECT FROM
SENDER VIA W.U. TELEX

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WASHINGTON DC 14 JUL 727A EDT

PHILIP HUMPHREY VERTEBRATE ZOOLIGIST
#369 10TH ST AND CONSSTN AVE NW
SMITHSONIAN INST WASHDC

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SEVEN TURNSTONES ARRIVED JULY 12

MAX C THOMPSON RESEARCH CURATOR ST GEORGE ISLAND ALASKA

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SENDER VIA WU TELEX

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July 13, 1966

Mr. Douglas Hackman
Honolulu

Dear Doug -

Just a quick note about supplies - you want the following which I have written followed by the price we pay here. If our price if lots better than yours, we'll order here. Otherwise, if you will send us the name of the manufacturer (dealer) you use out there we can send a purchse order from here "not to exceed $1,000" and you can order directly from him. Each time you buy from him, he should submit an invoice to you (to check for accuracy) and you in turn would send it back to us here. It would then go to fiscal with payment authorized and it should get paid fairly quickly.

810S 10cc disposable syringes - $8.00C in lots of over 1,000
Yale 1.5" 21 Ga. dis. needles - $37.35M
Vacutainers, 10cc - $3.30 per can of 40, $19.80 per case of 240
Vacutainer needles, 21ga. 1.5" - $64.00M
Dispopettes (also called Pipette) - 9", 230 mm - $3.87 gross in 10 Gross lots -K
(Have already ordered these) $3.44 gross in 30 gross lots -K
3.13 gross for 45 gross (Thomas)

The forceps have been ordered, we've sent out the first letterhead, 2 drums of sawdust are on way, the Bouin's Fluid is ordered, whirlpaks ordered, gloves sent, cotton sent, pliers ordered, return and recovery sheets sent, time tape ordered. Intermediate sheets sent.

The 652-27001-27100 string of bands was issued to Paradiso across the hall for bat banding. I haven't been able to find him but I'm going to check to see if he still has his string. If it is unaccounted for I think that we'll assume that somehow we got it here (I banded a bat last year and can't remember where I got the band!) and sent it out to you - it all seems unlikely and the next part of the serial will come when I find out what happened.

Do let us know pronto about the prices above - if you can get them there for approximately this price (even if it is just a little higher we would be saving shipping costs from here to you plus Jan's time) I think we should put in the purchase order with your local people. Send a full name and address for them and we can get it through here very quickly. You could order at once out there if they would be willing to wait for a while for their reimbursement.

Best regards,

Church

B.C.

July 12, 1966

Mr. Fred C. Sibley
1013 Sunset Place
Ojai, California 93023

Dear Fred:

Jan just brought me the letter you wrote asking for additional information on gull skins from the Project collection. I don't expect to be talking with Chuck again before he leaves Honolulu to ask if you wrote to him about the paper but of course presume that you and Bob cleared with him before starting it. This is our regular procedure and keeps people from starting a paper which someone else has already decided to write! I talked with Dr. Humphrey who had also not heard anything about it. Please let me know right away as I cannot release information about the skins (these are not as yet in the public domain) unless I have approval from either Dr. Humphrey or Dr. Pyle.

Dr. Humphrey suggested that you should probably include any sight records of gulls. Have you these already? He also wondered if you would require any photographs (if, indeed, we have nay!).

Earl Baysinger came back yesterday and said that he had seen you at a banding meeting recently - I gather that the condor populations is still unbanded? This reminds me that we banded 162,000 birds in three weeks on the last Leewards trip - Crossin banded 4,500 in one night and Balcomb did 4,800 about two days later. Dick wondered how Larry liked being third best!

Do let me know right away if Chuck approved your paper and, if so, what number he assigned it. I just checked through my list to make sure and do not see your name connected with any gulls. We have had a minimum of confusion with the change in Honolulu but we may well have suffered a communication lag there. Do allow time for final clearance also when the paper is done.

Best regards to you and Peggy -

Church

file

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST

July 12, 1966

Sometime last week Jane looked into Binion's and Jaye Cee's room and realized that Jaye Cee no longer even had foot room (we haven't figured out yet which is the worse pack rat). Yesterday they were moved down into 605 with Mary and things look a little more spacious. Saverna moved back into 601, Ruth changed places with Anne, Jane and Anne moved into 601A. We trust that all hands will be a little more comfortable.

We talked with Honolulu yesterday - Chuck and Jan not able to get to the mainland and where will they go once they get there! Back here Dr. Humphrey cancelled his leave period before the I.O.C. but Mrs. Humphrey was still scheduled to take the Scottish Islands bird cruise. Things look pretty bleak right now as no one has been able to get her on any flight which will make the proper connections. Next week Pat, Dr. and Mrs. Ely and Dr. Humphrey are scheduled to leave and we are beginning to have severe doubts about those trips too.

We hear that Binion is down on Sand Island - nice that he could get back. Rumor has it that Brian is in Honolulu, that Dick Maze and Jim Lewis are en route Kure, that Phil and Frank are on Sand. My apologies to Sand Island for not having sent them copies of their reports all these months! We will back-order to February and send them all out at once. Did Kure also want to receive xeroxed copies of their bi-weekly summaries? I don't think that I've been sending them out there either.

Mary is on leave and Jan has beengoing to Interior for her. He brought back a Black-foot recovery, 737 - 32046, found dead on beach 2 miles south of the entrance to Gray's Harbor, Gray's Harbor County, Washington. It was an adult, banded on Southeast, P & H, 02-28-63. He also picked up 12 bands which had been sent in by one James A. Corsi from Johnston (it might be a good idea to see if he's still there and have him report them directly to us??). In case we are keeping any records on these birds, the numbers were 913-01732, 913 - 07595, 913 - 03023, 913 - 08279, 913 - 17018, 913 - 11927, 913 - 16558, 913 - 13820, 913 - 12831, 933 - 60486, 933 - 84675, 933 - 71125. In the course of yesterday's move we also found a letter from the Philippines concerning 777 - 55812, a Frigatebird which was found after a typhoon at San Ramon, Claveria, Masbate on May 19, 1966. It died (this may have been reported earlier but I'm not sure). We also found 737 - 38376, a Blackfoot which was captured and released with band intact at 47°00'N, 141°15'W.

f.c.

July 11, 1966

Dr. Ralph Kirkpatrick
745 Spicewood Drive
Jeffersonville, Indiana

Dear Ralph:

I'm afraid that the airlines strike has stymied shipping you your mice! We made all the nenessary arrangements, filled out all the papers, and then when we called Piedmont Airlines today they said that they were unable to ship any perishable goods until after the strike.

We will let you know when we are able to sent them.

Best regards,

Jane P. Church
Administrative Assistant
Pacific Project

b.c.

10 July 1966

Dr. Robert Fyle
P. O. Box 5095
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Dr. Fyle:

This letter is to advise you that I would like to take annual leave as soon as the Alaska summer field work is finished in September or early October. I have not taken leave since coming on the project in June 1965 and if possible would like to take up to 14 days. (with the exception of a few days last fall)

He x has asked me to co-author some papers with him on the Alaska work. I feel that if I am to be an author I should help with some of the work in DC in October and November. I realize of course that this depends on the need for field son, but if possible I would like to be assigned to DC for awhile.

I hope you and your family had a pleasant trip to Honolulu and that your stay is a pleasant one.

Sincerely yours

RLD

Robert L. Delong

cc: Church

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

July 9, 1966

Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.
Pacific Program, Room 601W
Smithsonian Institution

Dear Jane:

A mutual friend has already admitted that he isn't too red hot when it comes to record keeping but since he is in Alaska (and can't defend himself) I won't say much about him. After a great deal of searching and complaining I have managed to find and straighten out a number of errors that occurred on the banding records from the last SIC trip. There is one for which I have positively no solution- one you know about already.

In Max's book, written just as pretty as you please, was the band series 652-27001-27100. I have no idea regarding the origins of this string and have never carried it on an inventory. I t may be that we have always had this string (stuck away inside a pack of something else) and just never ran across it. At anyrate, Max records this string on two different pages in both his green memo (field) book and in the trip record. I don't really see how he could have goofed in the original recording of the string. Perhaps you could check with the banding office and find out who the string was originally issued to and if it was ever reported as being used. If not, I suppose that the best thing we could do would be to report is as being used by us on Phoenix Is.

Max pulled a couple of other dillies on me in the records but I think I have them all straightened out now. Time will tell.

We have again reached the point where we are in need of certain supplies. Everytime you think you are all set for a few months the program speeds up again and suddenly you are short of gear. I have ordered a few items from out here as a sort of buffer between now and the time your supplies get here (i.e. 2400 vacutainers & 2000 syringes.) The prices I paid for these items are the ones I previously quoted to you. Shipping for these items is negligable because the company brings them in with their regular shipments.

We need the following:

SENT 4 packs of Smithsonian Letterhead Stationery. (* 1 or 2 packs through the mail)
SENT Need 2 drum for next SIC * 6 drums of good (fine) hardwood sawdust - no wood chips, iron filings, etc.
ordered 30 bottles Bouin's Fluid - for procellarid proventriculi. * Need for next SIC
ordered 5000 Whirlpaks
ordered 3000 Small plastic bags
SENT 50 pair gloves *
SENT 84275 4 cartons - cotton batts (could use 7-8 batts for the next SIC) - rest can come surface.
ORDERED 50 pair spring pliers *
5000 Pacific Project Field Tags
Formaldehyde - you were going to make monthly shipments?
Alcohol - we are now down to 4 gallons which is enough for another trip
SENT * 1000 Returns sheets (have only about 150 left.)
SENT * 1000 Recovery sheets (have only about 100 left.)

Sent * 300 streamer sighting sheets - we will probably change this form soon.because of the increasingly large number of sightings.

SENT * Big piles of intermediate sheets. Unless someone back in D.C. wants to do these sheets there should be a large pile of them out here. It seems to work best if these are done while the trip is in progress and also gives the boys something to do when they are in port. It is very unlikely that they will all be completed however, if people have to wait until they return here in between trips. If trips leave here and don't have their forms finished I plan to send them back to D.C. for completion because I sure don't have time to mess with them.

From the way things are beginning to look we are going to need more than 300,000 more # 3 bands to keep ourselves in operation for the coming year. With five back to back SIC trips plus numerous other operations that seem to be in the offing at the present time a supply of 300,000 won't last very long. They have wiped out my supply of 600,000 in a little more than 4 months. I am presently down to about 45,000 bands and don't expect them to last any great length of time. If the SIC trip calls for them I have orders to send them down. There is, then, a very good chance that I'll be completely out of #3 bands by the beginning of August. My supplies of other sizes are in pretty good shape at the current time.

Ordered - Thomas Also need about 60 rolls of time tape *
Ordered - Thom. 45 ~~gross~~ gross 9" dispopettes
asked Doug
6000 Syringes 810S 10cc disposable
5000 Yale 1½" 21 Ga. disposable needles
6000 Vacutainers, 10cc
1000 Vacutainer needles, 21 ga. 1½"
Ordered <20 small forceps *

* The items marked with an asterick should be shipped via 4th class mail so they will be here in time for the next SIC trip and for other trips going out between now and then. The rest can be shipped via surface transport.

I think this will do us for quite a while. The reason for the big blood item shipment is partly the large number of committments that appear to be brewing plus the heavy drain on supplies by the island stations (about 400 of everything per month at the present time)

Hope everything is going well back in D.C. Give my regards to all. Finally, with Dick Merrill here to do run around work and keep tabs on the warehouse, I have the opportunity to start a job and follow it to its conclusion. Maybe now I'll be able to keep up with all of the jobs that have been keeping me buried in the past. I'm presently working on a complete up-dating of the inventory and have many other jobs all lined up to be done. Up to now it has been virtually impossible to do much more than keep my head above water with supplies and banding records since a good ½ of my time is spent in running around town when I'm here by myself.

The baby is really doing well and is behaving himself beautifully. Hasn't kept us up one night yet and hardly ever cries except when he's wet, etc. or hungry. Linda is also doing well even though she is currently highly disorganized.

Regards,

Doug

Charles D. Hackman, ESQ.

6c.

July 7, 1966

Dr. Robert L. Pyle
P. O. Box 8095
Waikiki Station
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Bob:

Chuck wrote me on June 25th about the need for purchasing a new boat for the Shearwater. I presume you have a carbon of Chuck's letter to me but if not I enclose a Xerox copy.

I agree with Chuck that we do need a new boat for the Shearwater and although I am concerned about the price (in excess of $2,000) it is my opinion that the safety of our people is more important than the cost. Although I am willing to back purchase of a Boston Whaler and feel that this should be pushed as soon as possible so as to be able to make the SIC 15 in September, I am concerned about the probable "ship modification" which may be needed for the Shearwater to accommodate the Boston Whaler.

I will try to talk with John about all of this sometime in the next few days before I go to England in order to get some impression of what we may be able to do about our proposed Boston Whaler.

One thing I would like to investigate is the possibility of picking up a new boat which is large enough to provide the kind of safety and stability we require yet not so large as to require the major ship modification which seems to be indicated for the 16 foot Boston Whaler. I have complete faith in Dick Crossin's judgment about safety features and practical at-sea collecting problems.

Now that you have been in Honolulu for a while and have opened up our new offices there I imagine you have developed a more personal feeling about the Pacific Program and what makes it tick. I would be most interested to hear how things are going for you. I hope you and the family are settled happily in Honolulu and haven't had too many problems getting squared away. Moves can be traumatic, especially on the kids, and I hope everyone is settled happily into the new environment.

I received recently a letter from Jack Marr and I enclose a Xerox copy along with a carbon of my reply. We have had a very happy relationship with the Honolulu office of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries and, as you will see from my reply to Jack, I want very much to continue providing a certain amount of support to their plankton processing and other appropriate activities. Sometime if you have a chance (you have probably already done this) it would be worthwhile paying a call on Jack Marr if only to reiterate our gratitude for all the help the BCF has been to us in the past.

I will be coming through Honolulu sometime during the early part of September. I'm certainly looking forward to seeing you then and finding out from you first hand how things are going.

Best regards,

Philip S. Humphrey
Chairman
Department of Vertebrate Zoology

Enclosures

f.c.

July 7, 1966

Mr. Frank Smith
Sand Island

Dear Frank:

Many thanks for your letter and glad to hear that you got your ID and your driver's license so quickly. I hope that you and Phil are doing the usual excellent job on Sand - I will look forward to seeing the weekly reports to see how well the two of you are keeping up with past teams!

Unfortunately you did not give us the address of the First National Bank of Atlanta! We have your account number, we have your address, but we do not have its address and so we will continue to send your checks to the place they've been going to so far until we hear from you. My best to Phil.

Best regards,

Jane Church

July 5, 1966

Dear Chuck:

I'm at the stage where I don't know to whom to write about what! I had a letter from Dick Crossin this morning in which he mentioned that he would probably be returning to Washington after SIC 14. I showed this letter to Phil because of several other things in it and if Dick is to come back after the trip anyway he feels that he should go to the AOU and present a paper. I mentioned that it would be hard to be the leader of a SIC trip and also write a paper and suggested that he polish his Laysan Finch one and give that. It's in darned good shape anyway and if it's new material it should make a pretty good report.

This is where I don't know to whom I should be writing! I'm enclosing a copy of the paper he's already done - can someone do an abstracttof it????? We'd have to get it off to be cleared very quickly in order to get it out to the AOU planning committee which has sent out a plea for papers as they are very short this year. If you and Bob agree that Dick can come back for this (it would not cost much more to come through Duluth and we have funds available for the meeting) I'll find out from Phil who is on the paper planning committee and telephone him to ask them to save space for the finch. I'll also call John Bushman to ask if there is any reason to think that wouldn't clear very quickly and point out that Dick would be coming through from the west with very little expense occruing to the contract. HELP - I need advise...and right away.

Excuse the typing - I'm trying to get off everything today which should have gone out last week!

Incidently, if no one else has time to do it, I'd be glad to put the finch paper in paper-to-be-presented form - it would not be as good as having Dick or someone else more competent to do it but I'd be delighted to help!

Best regards,

Church

f.c.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

DROPPINGS FROM THE EAGLE'S ROOST
July 5, 1966

Well, just about this time we suppose that SIC 14 is heading out to sea. This leaves us with such a flat feeling here somehow - we're missing all the fun (?). Also, it has been so stinking hot here for such a long time that one or all would be glad to go anywhere.

Last weekend saw a general exodus of personnel. Saverna went to Atlantic City and reported there wasn't enough room to sit on the beach! John Fitch is stiff and sore from water skiing - he's getting ready for Pacific work! Jane went to the Shenandoah National Park and camped for three days, doing absolutely, flatly nothing. Jaye Cee was best man in a wedding and swears that he didn't drop the ring. Pat didn't report - maybe his recent move to new quarters has kept him from leaving on weekends. Others went to the beaches and swimming pools.

Two letters came in from Dayle Husted this morning - the first one said he'd see us on the 7th so we carefully got his forms ready for his departure. Then underneath his expense accounts I found another letter saying that he was on his way to Midway.

Dick Crossin, bless him, took time off to write us just a general letter. We are hoping that he will not go back and try again to be the world's fastest bander - when our men come back from the field we like to have them able to stand up straight! In case anyone hasn't heard, Dick was King for a Day or maybe even two days. He banded 4500 adult Sooties on Laysan but Ken Balcomb, not to be topped, banded 4800 on Lisianski. The total Leeward total is about 102,000 birds - that plus the Midway total of about 60,000 gave us 160,000+ in three weeks! I called the Banding Office just to tell them what we were doing - it will be best not to repeat what they said to me!

Dr. Humphrey heard from Dr. Pyle this morning - he enclosed lots of meteorological data and sea surface temperatures for the paper which Dr. Humphrey will give to the Pacific Science Congress in Tokyo the end of August. Everybody is going somewhere except us!

Somewhere in the early part of the month we received a letter saying that a Red-footed Booby, 737-98483, which was banded on Kure as an immature on September 7, 1964 was caught by hand on board a vessel bound for Japan from Honolulu. The position was 24°26'N, 171°33'W. The bird left the ship the next morning 1,000 west of this position.

We seem to have more bits and pieces this time - we all enjoyed the box of candy that the Pyles sent us en route to Seattle. When the last piece was in the box, we found a sign saying "Modesty" on top of it. We have yet to figure out who took the candy, replacing the slip of paper with another slip saying "Gluttony".

The trip summaries which were sent from Honolulu are proving invaluable - these included the numbers of the trips (SIC 1, 2, etc.) the dates, vessel, personnel, plus islands or group descriptions. I think that Jan Ely did most of this with some help from her husband and Max. When these are added to the pelagic summaries which Pat Gould has put together, we have an instant method of location of data for any one SIC. Many thanks to all.

I seem to have missed the boat last week - the Long-billed Curlew is Numenius madagascarensis, the first North American skin. Bob DeLong also collected a Plover which is a Mongolian Plover. They have a White-Wagtail which is a first record for the Pribilofs and Max shot a Common Pochard on St. Paul, the second record for the Pribilofs plus a Polynesian Tattler, the first spring record. Max also sent a picture of two Turnstones that had been previously banded. The plumage difference was striking - the head of the immature which was banded in 1964 is brown and the adult's head is white. Be on the lookout for a brown-headed or a white-headed Turnstone.

4 July 1966

Dr. Ralph D. Kirkpatrick
Indiana University
Southeastern Campus
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130

Dear Ralph:

I'm sure you can guess why I delayed so long on this reply. The movers come Friday morning and we leave the islands on the "Red-eye" flight Monday midnight. Now that we are just about to leave it takes a lot of will power to finish up the last few loose ends.

I see no reason why the proposed changse in your Tokelau manuscript would cause any problems with clearance and suggest that you go ahead with your plans to make the changes. I do think that it would be well to send them a copy of the final manuscript after it has been accepted, etc., especially if the paper is delayed by the usual publication backlog.

I suspect that you surmised from conversations in D.C. that money is expected to be short this fall and even shorter next year, assuming that the program continues. Whether this has any effect on such projects as your's is not for me to say. I'd suggest that you keep plugging away and see what develops.

As for your note on wing-tagging, I still agree that it is a good idea but suggest that you proceed before someone else gets the same idea. You should be able to dig up some data on the wing-tagging of frigates in the southern islands also. We never did get back to the Leewards to see the results of the Bonin Island streamering. That was just a gamble that did not work out.

The data from the banding program are coming in at an increasing rate and in some ways I hate to leave at this time. But I'm sure its in my best interests in the long run. We are looking forward to getting back into an academic environment. Drop me a line once in a while. I'll be at Hays until at least next June and can be reached there or through S.I.

Good luck and I hope that your papers come out soon.

Best regards,

Charles A. Ely
Pacific Program

b.c

4 July 1966

Dear Jane:

While all is quiet I will drop you a short note with the report. Robert is off to the 4th of July dance here while the ole hermit stays home. Actually just between you and me I am about to go stir crazy this year for some reason. I guess it is because we have so little to do this year. Last year we were bleeding birds but the snow fall was light this year and we can't reach the birds on the cliffs. Starting on Thursday the seal kill starts so we will be bleeding a few seals and that will take up some time. Also the turnstones will start drifting in next week and that will cause a flurry of activity.

Thanks for your wire. They were flying thick and fast. We got one from the BCF the same day and they said to go ahead and pay for our food here but the room must be billed to SI. So that is how it finally stands, i.e. we pay the board and the SI the room.

Today was the first bad spell of weather we have had. It rained all night and the wind was blowing about 40 mph. This evening it has calmed down and the fog is back after the sun peeped through at sunset.

The Alaska Steamship ship Tanana is due in on the 8th or 13th, hence this mail shipment. Unfortunately it is going North and we live south so no mail!!!

There really isn't much to say about this season so far. We hear over the radio that DC has been real hot this summer. I hope you don't suffer too much. We had one or two days when I nearly froze but guess I will get toughened up.

I have offered Bob co-authorship of the Alaska material and ask Dr. Pyle to send him to DC in October-November to help on it. I expect to find out about the Kelez late in July or early August.

Well motherbird, I guess I haven't anything more to say so this is babybird signing off. Sure miss you all. Oh yes, tell Mary that Mr. Oconsky(sp.) is popular with Radio Havana, Cuba. They were telling about his draft statements.

Lovingly
mart

July 6:
Mail leaves at 530 am tomorrow. Ship is bringing our mail back hurrah. Weather crummy. Seal Kill started today. Took 20 sera samples.
MCT

HAWAIIAN
KING HOTEL
417 NOHONANI STREET
WAIKIKI, HAWAII

b.c.

Dear Jane,

Sand Island never received a copy of the April '66 summary of the project and could well use one for their reference files. If the whole report can't be sent down there, they should at least have a copy of the section on Sand Island if you gan get it there.

Also they desperately need the banding catalogues or at least Zerox copies of the Banding catalogues for 1964 and 1963. The '65 catalogue is down there, incidentally. There is information in these catalogues which is not on the big bandid summary, and this information is essential for analizing some of the data that is now being collected.

Sent

Iguess that you know Phil Shelton is down there right now.

Cheers for now. Hope that I can catch a plane for the west coast (strike, you know) and catch one of the YAGs for Honolulu on the 20 or 22.

Cheers!

Brian

file / f.c.

July 1, 1966

Mr. Max Thompson
St. George Island
Pribilof Islands, Alaska

Dear Max:

I seem to be writing short letters these days! In looking through your 13 June letter today, I find that I neglected to put some of your records in Droppings last Tuesday(we'll do it next week). We have sent you the scalpel blades - you've asked for 30 #3 blades - there's no such thing as a #3 blade, so we conclude that you mean blades to fit #3 handles.

Don't worry about the Elys' presents - each will get something. I just didn't want to have happen again what happened when Maryanna left - about five people spending an entire week trying to decide what to get her and where. I'll let you know as soon as we get something (we is going to be two people instead of the perennial ten).

Will write another little jewel when I again discover I've forgotten something else!

Best regards,

Jane P. Church

PS. Roger says please to thank you for the cards.